Urla Major & Minor:

OR,

A Sober and Impartial

ENQUIRY

Into those Pretended Fears and Jealousies

OF

Popery and Arbitrary Power,

WITH

Some Things offered to Consideration touching His MAJESTIE'S League made with the King of *FRANCE*, upon Occasion of his Wars with *Holland*, and the United Provinces.

IN

A LETTER

Written to a Learned FRIEND.

LONDON,

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SIR,

IF a very long and ſad, for many years together, often repeated Experience, with the ſence of very many National and Univerſal needleſs Miſeries, which are ſo certainly to be believed, as all the People of the Nation (the wickedly-gaining Party by it only excepted) may ſafely make *Affidavit* of it, were able to obtain any thing or prevail with us, not one, but every man ſhould think that it was and would be a duty Incumbent upon every *Engliſh-man*, and true Lover of his King and Countrey (for there be too many *Counterfeits* who do not well underſtand either the one or the other) to abhor and fly as the affrighted *Greek*, and Relator of the Strength and Gigantine Cruelties of the monſtrous *Polyphemus*, did with a *Fugite ô Fugite*, from the Phantaſms of thoſe ungrounded Fears and Jealouſies, which uſher'd in, and fomented that Subverſion of our Religion, Laws, and Liberties, eſpecially when it is not yet gone out of memory, how many Diſmal and ever to be lamented Effects and Calamities the inflamed and affrighted Vulgar and too haſty and inconſiderate Factious part of the People, in the Years 1641, and 1642. with the Fancies of Popery, and Arbitrary Power and Dangers ruſhing in upon us, *viz.* a *Plague-Plaiſter* ſuppoſed to have been Attempted to be delivered to their great Champion Mr. *John Pym* to Infect and Deſtroy him; Horſes kept and trained under Ground; the Lord *Digby* in his Coach and ſix Horſes (upon his ordinary occaſions) appearing at *Kingſton* upon *Thames* in a Warlike manner, with many other dreſſed up *Bugbears*, not enough to affright old Women and young Children have brought upon us, and that a Bloody and Coſtly War, Murder of their King and fellow Subjects, Rapine and Spoil of each other; the waſhing over in Blood, and almoſt Deſtruction of Three Kingdoms, and the Ruine of Church and State have been the Products of them. And when all was done, could not aſſign any other Ground or Cauſe for it, than Rebellion that *Sin of Witchcraft*, and the Reliſh and Content which was found in the violation of all the Commandments in the ſecond Table of the dreadfully, by God himſelf, pronounced *Decalogue*; and as much as they could of the firſt, and by yielding up their Diſcretions to the firſt Summons of their Fears of Imaginary apparitions of Dangers, have made themſelves to be well deſerving, or fit for the Reproach or Caſtigation which St. *Paul* uſed to a far leſs intoxicated People, *O ye fooliſh Galatians, who hath bewitched you?*

Though your Learning, long Converſation, and large acquaintance with Hiſtory; together with your curious *recherches* and retroſpection into the Affairs of the World, and Ages paſt, a great Inſight into the *Politiques*, and a ſtrict watch and obſervation kept upon the Cauſes, Effects, and Events of *Actions of State*, and as many of the Reaſons and Intrigues thereof, as are proper and do uſually come to publick View, may ſufficiently fortifie you, againſt thoſe kind of Impreſſions, which have beſpoken and taken up ſo much room in the Minds of ſuch as are leſs Cogniſant, or do too much accuſtome themſelves to make their Deſigns to be the only meaſure of their own Errors in Judgment, which are not ſeldom built upon gueſs or contraries; yet leſt your great care and vigilance in all the Concernments of the *Proteſtant* Religion, and the Property and juſt Rights of the

Subjects ſhould raiſe in you more than ordinary Apprehenſions, and carrying you down the Rapid ſtream of thoſe great miſtakings, bereave you of that Happineſs which hitherto hath attended the Temper and Tranquillity of your Mind, and make you a Priſoner to thoſe Fears and falſe Alarms, which your more Sedate Thoughts, will I aſſure my ſelf tell you are not to be numb'red amongſt thoſe *quæ in virum Conſtantem cadere poſſint*, which can ever be able to diſturb the quiet and repoſe of a Man, who from the *mountains of Time*, hath looked further than yeſterday, and by the Rules of Prudence, Policy, and former Examples, may with more certainty than *Aſtrology* ever afforded, foreſee what is likely to happen.

I have adventured here incloſed to ſend you my Thoughts and Sentiments, which I hope will not want your Candid Reception; eſpecially when they ſhall but bring before you and your judicious Cenſure the Conſiderations, that there will be enough ſurely to ſatisfie and quiet the moſt timerous or melancholick Perſons (who too often trouble themſelves with their own Imaginations) that the increaſe of Popery ſince the Statutes of the firſt and 23th of Queen *Eliz.* and 3d of King *James*, in the year 1638. (when Liberty, Pretence of Religion, and Conſcience began to run out of their Wits, and never ſtayed until they came to an Open and Horrid Rebellion) hath been ſo little (although the Popiſh Party have gained too many great Advantages by that and our many Diviſions in Matters of Religion and Church Government, and our late National Debaucheries and Atheiſm, which do carry too many into the Deluſions of Popery) As it may, if a ſtrict accompt were taken, probably enough aſcertain us that there hath been rather a Decreaſe than an Increaſe of it. And that if Commiſſions, which will be no way inconſiſtent with the Rules and reaſon of Law and good Government were granted by His Majeſty unto Orthodox, Loyal, Diſcreet, Sober, and Unbyaſſed Perſons in every County and City of *England* and *Wales*, to Inquire and Certifie how many Papiſts there are therein Reſident, the Reſult and Concluſion will aſſure His Majeſty and His great Council of Parliament, that there is not above Five in every Hundred of the Nation, if ſo many, that are guilty of direct *Popery*, or Infected with it; and in *Scotland* not many more, unleſs that ſmall Number ſhould happen ſomething to be increaſed by the late addition of the *Jeſuited Maſquerade* counterfeit *Proteſtants*.

And their increaſe in Riches or Eſtate, not like to be much, when they that ſhall be Convict, and have no Lands or real Eſtate, are by the Statutes of 29 *Eliz.* to forfeit and pay 20 *l.* every Month.

And they that have Lands and real Eſtate are to pay 2 parts, the whole in the 3 parts to be divided by the Statute of 3 *Jac. ca.* 4.

And if that ſhould not impoveriſh their Eſtates, and make them leſs terrible than the *Anakims*, it would nevertheleſs be effected by the Maintenance, Neceſſities and corroding of their Prieſts and *Jeſuits*, with the multitude of Papal Exactions and Contributions to foreign Colleges, and Religious Houſes, *Penſions*, *Cenſes*, *Peter-pence*, *Procurations*, *Suits for Proviſions*, *Expeditions of Bulls*, *Appeals*, *Reſcripts*, *Diſpenſations*, *Licenſes*, *Grants*, *Relaxations*, *Writs of* Perinde valent, *Rehabilitations*, *Alolitions*, and other ſorts and natures of *Breves* and *Inſtruments* enumerated in the Statute of 25 *H.* 8. *ca.* 21. And there ſaid to be Infinite, with their many times coſtly *Maſſes*, *Indulgencies*, *Releaſes*, and *Purgatory* favours, by which the common kind of Papiſts are ſure in their Contributions and Taxes charged upon them by their well-gaining Superiours, or Conductors, the wrong way to have themſelves and their Families kept and continued poor and low enough, without the leaſt of danger of Surfeits or overmuch Satieties, eſpecially when they are to live after the exceſſive Rates of Houſhold Proviſions, and Expences for Food

and

and Raiment, now more than formerly exacted, to the ſhame and diſgrace of the Proteſtant Religion, by a mighty and inſupportable exceſs of Pride, Uſury, Brocage, and Cheating to maintain it.

Neither are their Numbers or Increaſe (conſidering their ſtrict Obſervations of *Lent*, very many Publick Penances, *Vigils*, and Faſts, and Private Mortifications) like to be as dreadful as that of the Children of *Iſrael* in *Ægypt* to the *Ægyptians*.

Or of the *Moors* that had 800 years together Conquered and Overpowred *Spain*, when the numerous Poſterity of them were in the memory of Man, Baniſhed and ſent home again into *Affrick* upon ſo ſevere and ſhort a warning, as they were conſtrained to abandon and leave behind them all their Lands and Poſſeſſions, and carry only ſuch moveables as a rigorous and ſhort prefixion could allow them.

Or to cauſe them to be Tranſplanted, as many of the *Iriſh* were, by *Cromwell* in his Hypocritical, Zealous, and unmerciful Policy from their other more comfortable Provinces in *Ireland*, as *Ulſter*, *Lymerick*, and the *Engliſh* Pale, into *Connaught* the worſer part of that Kingdom.

And that there is no foundation to ſupport thoſe *Panick* Fears which have ſo greatly and more then needs tormented the Minds of too many of the either over-credulouſly fearful, or over-medling part of the People, and being only more ſuppoſed than demonſtrated to be a Grievance, and lying heavy upon ſome kind of Spirits, will be as neceſſary to be taken out of their Minds, and as well becoming a State *Policy*, and the Care of the Soveraign, as it was of our King *Henry* the Third, who in the turbulent Commotions of his Barons and their Adherents, and the Diſtreſſes which were put upon him, found it to be no *Mountebank*'s Medicine to Cure and aſſwage the Diſtempers of the all-diſcerning and giddy Multitude, by granting out his Commiſſions into every County, to inquire of their Grievances or cauſes of diſcontents; ſo as not to excuſe or Patronize any one Sort or Sect whatſoever, in their maintaining the Unchriſtian and Damnable Doctrine of *Killing* or *Depoſing* Princes for *Male-Adminiſtration* of Juſtice, or thoſe that diſſent from our truly Loyal and Religious Church of *England*.

It may be a thing capable of wonder, and fit to be put as a Queſtion to the more Intelligent, How it ſhould happen that Fears and Jealouſies ſhould ſo diſturb the Minds of ſuch as endeavour to affright themſelves, and others with the Attempts and Dangerous Doctrines of the *Popiſh* Party, and the ſame perſons nevertheleſs to be ſo calm and ſilent in the faſt-rooted, unrepented, and offered in publick to be juſtified groundleſs, ungodly, and diſloyal Opinions of too many of thoſe that would be called *Proteſtants*, and accompted Zealots in the Practice and Promotion of it, That *a King is accomptable to the People for breach of Truſt, may be depoſed*, and is but *Co-ordinate with both his Houſes of Parliament*; and as not content with that which can never be proved to be due unto them, would mount a great deal higher, and pretend that there is a *Soveraignty* in the People; and that the *King is but an Artificial Man, ſet up or appointed by them*; And ſuffer a Seditious Book, called, *The Obligation of Humane Laws* to be publickly Sold, and never complained of, when it doth all it can to prove, That *every man, how ſimple or illiterate ſoever he be, is to be a Judge, whether the Law or a Command of his Prince or Superior be good or bad, and direct or apply his Obedience unto it accordingly*.

As if they had never heard or read of the folly and dire Effects of Rebellion and Sedition in that of the *Spencers*, in the Reign of King *Edward* the Second, That *Allegiance was only due to the Crown, and not unto the Perſon of the Prince*; being exploded by two Acts of *Parliament*, and the Promoters

Condemned

Condemned of Treaſon, and his Inforced reſignation of his Crown to his Son King *Edward* the Third, by the Faction of his *Queen* and *Mortimer*, and the depoſing of King *Richard* the Second by an over-power of the Army of *Henry* of *Lancaſter*, and his Party, occaſioned by affrighting him into a ſeeming voluntary Surrender, diſallowed and deteſted by Succeeding Ages.

Or may we not rather commend and imitate the better temper of the Subjects of this Kingdom before the 23d year of the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, when in the beginning of her Happy and ever to be praiſed Government, they never ſtarted at her Indulgence to the *Popiſh* Party, or took it ill that ſhe kept an Embaſſador at *Rome*, and was offered to have the *Engliſh Liturgy*, and Reformation eſtabliſhed by the *Pope*'s Authority, if ſhe would but acknowledge his Supremacy, gave Aid to *Don Antonio*, a diſtreſſed Popiſh Prince towards the Recovery of the Kingdom of *Portugal*, and ſo much aſſiſted *Mary* Queen of *Scotland*, a Papiſt and Mother to our King *James* (who if ſhe had ſurvived her, was by Inheritance to have been Queen of *England*) againſt the *Preſbyterian* and *Congregational* Rebellious Party in *Scotland*, as they called her *the Whore of* Babylon, *and publickly Preached that ſhe was an Atheiſt, and of no Religion.*

Or can we do leſs than deem the *Engliſh* Nation in the Reign of King *James*, to be happy in their enjoyment of ſo great a Tranquility, as to be free from any Suſpitions of the Increaſe of Popery, when he was wrongfully accuſed by *Elphiſton*, to have written a little before his coming to the Crown of *England*, a ſeeming friendly Letter to the Pope, and that the Pope had after he came into *England*, ſent a Cardinal to Seduce him into the Snares of that Religion; wherein (although upon reaſon of State he had given his Royal Protection unto *Preſton* and *Warrington*, two Secular Prieſts, againſt the Practices of ſome *Jeſuits*, which *Abbot* Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*, a profeſſed enemy to Popery, did allow as a thing not evilly done) his afterwards Learned Books and Writings againſt that Church, might have abundantly manifeſted the folly of ſuch who ſhould but have imagined that he had any Inclination or good Will unto it.

For it cannot be unknown to you, that until the 16th year, and the after ſucceeding years of the Reign of that peaceable and wiſe Prince, when his Son-in-Law *Frederick* Prince Elector, and Count *Palatine* of the *Rhine*, had as unhappily as raſhly and unjuſtly, taken upon him to be Elected King of *Bohemia*, and that by the deſigned Marriage of His late Majeſty with the *Infanta* of *Spain*, he endeavoured all he could to allay and quench the Fire which the Wars about that and the *Palatinate* had kindled in *Germany*, and had put too many of our *Engliſh* into an humour and fit of Zeal, to deſire the propagating of the Proteſtant Religion by the Sword, no ſuch Fears or Jealouſies had gained a Poſſeſſion in the Minds of ſome unquiet People, who were in Duty as well as Reaſon to have acquieſced in the Conſtancy and Care of that Religious King, for the preſervation of the *Proteſtant* Religion.

Nor eſcape your Obſervation, that the benefits of the Marriage with the *Infanta* of *Spain*, being not well underſtood, and the miſapprehenſion of a Toleration of Popery to enſue thereupon, multiplying the ſuppoſed Dangers.

Having induced the Houſe of Commons in Parliament in the Nineteenth year of his Reign, to Petition that peaceable Prince, that the time was come that *Janus* Temple muſt be opened, and the Voice of *Bellona*, not of the *Turtle* muſt be heard, and therefore *they thought it their Duty not only to provide for the preſent ſupply of the War, but to take Care for the ſecuring of their Peace at home*, which *the dangerous Increaſe and Inſolency of Popiſh Recuſants, apparently, viſibly, and ſenſibly did lead them unto.*

And

And yet in the ſame Petition did acknowledge, That *they did not aſſume to themſelves any Power to determine of any part thereof, nor intended to incroach, or intrude upon the ſacred bounds of his Royal Authority, to whom, and to whom only they acknowledged it did belong to reſolve of Peace and War, and the Marriage of the moſt Noble Prince his Son.*

Unto which he did Anſwer, That *his Son in Law's unjuſt Uſurpation of the Crown* of *Bohemia, from the Emperor, had given the Pope and all that Party too fair a ground, and opened them too wide a gate, for curbing and oppreſſing of many Thouſands of the Proteſtant Religion in divers parts of Chriſtendom; that the Palatines accepting of the Crown of* Bohemia, *had no reference to the Cauſe of Religion, and therefore would not have the Parliament to couple the War of the Palatinate with the Cauſe of Religion, and that the beginning of that miſerable War which had ſet all Chriſtendom on fire was not for Religion, but only cauſed by his Son-in-Law's haſty reſolution following evil Counſel, to take to himſelf the Crown of* Bohemia, *and in the laſt year of his Reign in a Speech to the Parliament, wiſhed that it might be written in marble, and remain to Poſterity, as a mark upon him when he ſhould ſwerve from his Religion.* Rushworth's Collection.

And certainly he muſt be much an Infidel, and a great Maſter in the *Phantaſticks*, and School of *Opinionaſtrete*; that will not believe King *Charles* the Firſt his Son to have been a great Aſſertor of it, when in the fourth year of his Reign, in a Speech to the Parliament, he declared, That *he was, and ever ſhould be, as careful of Religion, and as forward as they could deſire, and would uſe all means for the maintenance and propagation of that Religion wherein he had lived, and did reſolve to die.*

And in the Head of his Army, and very great Diſtreſſes afterwards profeſs by the taking of the bleſſed Sacrament, *to maintain it, and took ſo great a Care of it*, as a *Popiſh* Book could not peep into *England*, but he ſpeedily appointed ſome of his Chaplains, or ſome other Learned Man of the Church of *England*, to Print and Publiſh an Anſwer unto it, made many of his Coins of Silver to Proclaim his reſolution to Defend the *Proteſtant* Religion, Laws, Privileges of Parliament, and the Liberties of the People, and died a *Martyr*, becauſe he would not deliver up his Subjects to a perpetual ſlavery of a never to be ſhaken off Arbitrary Power.

And His Majeſty that now is, being the Son and Heir of his Conſtancy in the Proteſtant Religion, hath been ſo much of that fixed and unalterable Reſolution as the Love of a Mother, and all thoſe Obligations that a filial Obedience had put upon him, could not diſſwade him from enforcing the Duke of *Glouceſter* his younger Brother out of her Tuition, and Intention to breed him up in the Popiſh Religion, and the *Syren* Charms of *Militiere* in his Book purpoſely Dedicated unto him to make him averſe to that Religion whoſe *Pſeudo-Profeſſors* had murdered his Father, and been the Cauſe of thoſe very many Miſeries, Affronts, Ill Uſages, Wants, and Reproaches which he and his Royal Brothers endured in the Twelve years longſome time of his Diſtreſſes, could never perſwade him to accept of a ſtrong and powerful Aid of Catholick Princes for his Re-eſtabliſhment in his Kingdoms, nor incline him to do that to ſave Three Kingdoms, which his Grandfather by the Mother-ſide, the *Great* Henry *of France*, by reconciling himſelf to the Church of *Rome*, did to ſave only one, when his Sufferings outwent and far ſurmounted any which his Grandfather had endured.

But if any would have our Laws the ſevereſt of which was Enacted in the Conſpiracy, and feared evil Conſequences of the Gun-Powder Treaſon, to be put ſo much in execution, as to forfeit and take away *two parts of three*; the whole in *three parts* to be equally divided of the real Eſtates of thoſe who have Lands, and Subject thoſe that have no Lands to

great Forfeitures and Penalties, and incapacitate all, to bear any Office in the Kingdom.

They are to conſider that it will be as hard as unequal for their King and Common Parent, as well as ours to allow a Liberty and Connivance to thoſe that are of worſe Principles, or at leaſt as dangerous as the Papiſts, fought and were active in our laſt Wars and Miſeries againſt His Majeſty, and His Royal Father, and all that were their Loyal and Obedient Subjects, and deny it to thoſe that fought, were Sequeſtred, Plundered, and Suffered for them; that all the Proteſtants in the World are not in *England*, and that amongſt thoſe in *England*, there are too many (the more is the pity) who have ſo rent and divided themſelves from the Church of *England*, and do ſo much and ſo often vary in their Judgments, Practice, and Opinions, as they appear rather to be no Proteſtants, or very little embracing the Profeſſion and Intereſt thereof; that our Incomparable and Prudent Queen *Elizabeth*, could never have maintained and ſupported ſo much as ſhe did the Proteſtant Religion, as well *Lutheran* as *Calviniſt*, in the Parts beyond the Seas, and that of the purer and better reformed Religion of the *Engliſh* Church at home by her Aids, Embaſſies, Leagues, and Intereceſſions, if ſhe had not requited the Catholick Princes with the like Indulgence and uſage to any of her Subjects that were of the *Romiſh* Religion, and that neither the Rebellions of the Earls of *Northumberland* and *Weſtmorland*, for the advance of Popery, many ſeveral Attempts to take away her Life, and Plots to Dethrone her, could ever perſwade her, or her Learned Succeſſor, notwithſtanding the Horrid deſign of the *Gunpowder* Treaſon, againſt him and his Poſterity, and the wiſer as they ſhould be and better part of his Subjects Aſſembled in Parliament, to be more than prudentially rigorous to that Party, whoſe Friends in other Countries might retalliate any Severity uſed to theirs; And although ſhe made ſome fierce and ſmart Laws to affright thoſe that called themſelves Catholicks, for principles inconſiſtent with the Safety of her Soveraignty, and its Government, which in all theſe Acts of Parliament appeared to be more againſt the Emiſſaries from *Rome*, which came to Seduce and lead them into ſuch dangerous Errors, than to forbid any thing that was Innocent in the private Devotions, religious and practical part of it; that Great Queen and King well underſtanding that they could not by any Rules of State, Juſtice, or Modeſty, of which Princes when there is not ſo great Inequality, as to give them an abſolute Dominion over one another, are uſually very tender, require any Eaſe or Liberties for Proteſtants living under other Princes, and their Laws, when they can neither promiſe or perform Mutualities or Reciprocations.

And therefore the Learned King *James* when the Houſe of *Commons* in *Parliament* had Petitioned him *to give ſome ſtop to the growth of Popery, one Cauſe whereof they aſſigned to be the Interpoſition of Foreign Princes Embaſſadors and Agents in favour of Papiſts*; Anſwered, That *they might reſt ſecure, that he would never be weary to do all he could for the Propagation of the Proteſtant Religion, and Suppreſſion of Popery, but the manner and form they were to remit to his Care and Providence, who could beſt conſider of times and ſeaſons; but his Care of Religion muſt be ſuch as on the one part he muſt not by the hot Perſecution of our Recuſants at home, irritate Foreign Princes of a contrary Religion, and teach them a way to plague the Proteſtants in their Dominions, with whom he daily interceeded, and at that time principally for eaſe to them of our Profeſſion that live under them.*

Rushworth's Hiſtorical Collections.

And in the 21th year of his Reign, in a Speech which he made in Parliament, declared to the Lords and Commons, That *it was true that at times, for Reaſons beſt known to himſelf, he did not ſo fully put Laws in Execution againſt*

againſt Recuſants; but did wink and connive at ſome things which might have hindred more weighty Affairs. But he did never in all his Treaties agree to any thing, to the overthrow and diſſolution of thoſe Laws, but had in all a chief care of the preſervation of that truth which he ever profeſſed; for as it was a good Horſeman's part not always to uſe his Spurs, and keep ſtrait the Reins; but ſometime to ſuffer the Reins to be more remiſs: So it was the part of a Wiſe King, and his Age and Experience in Government had informed him ſometimes to quicken the Laws with Executions, and at other times upon juſt Occaſions to be more remiſs: But as God ſhall Judge him, he never thought or meant, nor ever in any word expreſſed any thing that ſavoured of it, and prayed them to root out Jealouſies, which were the greateſt Weeds in their Garden.

For certainly to Confiſcate two parts of three of a Papiſt's Lands, or diſinherit the next Heir, if bred up in that Religion, can never amount to the avail of Proteſtants in *Tranſilvania, Hungary, Bohemia, Sileſia, Moravia, Poland,* Upper or Lower *Auſtria, Piedmont, Flanders, Brabant,* and the reſt of the Belgick Provinces, nor under thoſe which were United and Confederate, the *Hanſe*-Towns, *Bearne,* and ſome other of the Cantons of *Switzerland,* and the bad enough already uſed Multitudes of *Huguenots* in *France.*

Nor can the Perſecution or deſtroying of the greater part of the Proteſtants beyond the Seas, to gratifie the humerous pretences, and cauſeleſs fears of the more Imprudent, and leſſer part of the Proteſtants of *England,* be by any rule of right reaſon adjudged to be for the Proteſtant Intereſt.

And upon the like advice and reaſon may our fears of any Invaſion upon our Properties and juſt Rights diſappear, and vaniſh as ſoon as they ſhall with any eye of Judgment be but looked upon; nor will ever be able to endure the touchſtone of Truth, when our Liberties are ſo Impregnable, and fortified by very many of our good Laws and Liberties, and by our *Magna Charta,* and *Charters de Foreſta,* more than Thirty times confirmed by Acts of Parliament for thoſe great Charters were never ſingly or by themſelves ſo many times confirmed by Acts of Parliament.

When by that excellent Law and Charter freely granted in the Ninth year of the Reign of King *Hen.* 3. *No Freeman may be taken or Impriſoned, or be diſſeiſed of his freehold Liberties or free Cuſtoms, be Outlawed or Exiled, or in any manner deſtroyed, but by the lawful Judgment of his Peers, or by the Law of the Land; no man ſhall be amerced for a ſmall fault, or if for a greater, ſaving to him his Contenement, and a Merchant ſaving to him his Merchandize, Earls and Barons ſhall not be amerced but by their Peers; the King will not ſell, deny, or defer any Man either Juſtice or Right; No Man of the Church ſhall be amerced, after the quantity of his Spiritual benefit; but after the quantity of his Lay-tenement, and the quantity of his Offence, and a Villain ſhall not be amerced, but ſaving his Wainage, and that all things done to the contrary ſhall be void.* 9 H. 3. ca. 29. 9 H. 3. 14.

Sureties or Pledges ſhall not be Charged for any Debts of the King, if the Debtor hath Goods and Chattels to pay the Debt, and is ready to pay. Ca. 8.

None ſhall be Diſtreined for more Service than is due. 10.

Common Pleas ſhall not follow the King's Court. 11.

Thoſe that do commit Rediſſeiſin ſhall be Impriſoned, and not delivered without *ſpecial Commandment of the King, and ſhall make Fine to the King for the Treſpaſs.* 20 H. 3. 3.

By an Act of Parliament made in the Third year of King Edward *the First, none ſhall be attached by any occaſion, nor fore-judged of life or limb, nor his Lands, Tenements, Goods, or Chattels ſeiſed into the King's hands, againſt the form of the Great Charter, and the Law of the Land.* 3 E. 1. ca. 5. 9.

No

No City, Burrough, or Town, nor any Man ſhall be amerced without reaſonable Cauſe, and according to the quantity of his Treſpaſs; that is to ſay, every Freeman ſaving his Free-hold, and Merchant ſaving his Merchandize; a Villain ſaving his Gainure, and that by his or their Peers.

25 E. 1. ca. 5. *By an Act of Parliament made in the 25th year of his Reign.*

The King will take no Aids or Prizes, but by the Common conſent of the Realm, ſaving the ancient Aids and Prizes due and accuſtomed.

6. *Aids and Taxes granted to the King, ſhall not be taken for a Cuſtom.*

Ca. 25. *No Officer of the King by themſelves, or any other, ſhall maintain Pleas, Suits or Matters hanging in the King's Court, for Lands, Tenements, or other things to have any part or profit thereof.*

Ca. 5. *There ſhall be no diſturbance of free Elections by force of Arms, Malice, or otherwiſe.*

28 E. 1. 1. By the Statute called *Articuli Super Chartas*, made in the 28th year of the Reign of the aforeſaid King, *There ſhall be choſen in every Shire by the Commonalty of the ſame Shire, Three ſubſtantial men, Knights, or other lawful, wiſe, and well-diſpoſed Perſons, who ſhall be Juſtices Sworn and Aſſigned by the Kings Letters Patents under the great Seal, to hear and determine where before no remedy was at the Common Law, ſuch plaints as ſhall be made upon all thoſe that do Commit, or Offend againſt any point contained in the great Charter, or Charter of the Forreſt, which were ordained to be proclaimed at four ſeveral quarters of the year in full County in every year, in every County, and to hear the Plaints as well within the Franchiſes as without, and from day to day without allowing any the delays which be allowed by the Common Law; and to puniſh by Impriſonment, Ranſom or Amercement according to the Treſpaſs.*

Ca. 5. *No Common Pleas ſhall be holden in the Exchequer contrary to the form of the great Charter, the Marſhal of the King's Houſe ſhall not hold Plea of Free-hold, Debt, Covenant, or Contract made betwixt the King's People, but only of Treſpaſſes done within the Verge, and Contracts made by one Servant of the houſe with another.*

The Chancellor and Juſtices of the King's Bench ſhall follow the King; ſo that he may at all times have near unto him ſome that be Learned in the Laws, which be able duly to order all ſuch matters as ſhall come unto the Court at all times when need ſhall require.

6. *No Writ that toucheth the Common Law ſhall go forth under any of the Petit Seals.*

34 E. 1. 2. By an Act of Parliament made in the 34th year of the Reign of the aforeſaid King, *Nothing ſhall be purveyed to the King without the Owners aſſent.*

Statute de Tallagio non Concedendo fact' tempore. E. 1. By an Act of Parliament made in the Reign of the ſaid King, *No Tallage or Aids ſhall be taken or levyed by the King, or his Heirs within the Realm, without the good will and aſſent of the Arch-Biſhops, Biſhops, Earls, Barons, Knights, Burgeſſes, and other Freemen of the Land.*

1 E. 3. 6. By an Act of Parliament made in the firſt year of the Reign of King *Edward* the Third.

Aids granted to the King, ſhall be taxed after the old manner.

2 E. 3. 8. By an Act of Parliament made in the ſecond year of the Reign of the aforeſaid King, *No Commandment under the King's Seal ſhall diſturb or delay Juſtice.*

2 E. 3. *No Biſhops Temporalty ſhall be ſeized without good Cauſe.*

5 E. 3. 12. *Juſtices of Aſſize ſhall in their Seſſions enquire of the Demeanour of Sheriffs, Eſcheators, Bailiffs, and other Officers, and puniſh the Offenders.*

No Perſon ſhall be pardoned for an Utlary after Judgment without Agreement with the Plaintiff, or Outlawed before Judgment, until he do yield his Body to Priſon.

By

By an Act of Parliament made in the 14th year of the ſaid King, It *was aſſented, eſtabliſhed, and order'd, that Delays and Errors in Judgments in other Courts, ſhall be Redreſſed in Parliament by a Prelate, 2 Earls, and 2 Barons; who by good advice of the Chancellor, Treaſurer, and Juſtices of the one Bench and the other, and of the King's Council, as they ſhall think convenient, ſhall proceed to make a good accord and Judgment. And that the Chancellor, Treaſurer, Keeper of the Privy Seal, Juſtices of the one Bench and the other, Chancellor and Barons of the Exchequer, and Juſtices aſſigned; and all that ſhall intermeddle in the ſaid places under them, ſhall by the advice of the ſaid Arch-Biſhop, Earls, and Barons, make an Oath well and truly to ſerve the King and his People; and by the advice of the ſaid Prelate, Earls and Barons, to increaſe or diminiſh, when need ſhall be, the number of the ſaid Miniſters, and from time to time when Officers ſhall be newly put in, cauſe them to be ſworn in like manner.*

A Declaration by Act of Parliament made in the 25th year of the ſaid King's Reign. 25 E. 3. ca. 2.

What Offences ſhall be adjudged Treaſon, and if any other Caſe ſuppoſed Treaſon not therein ſpecified, ſhall happen before any Juſtices, they ſhall tarry without going to Judgment of the Perſon until the Cauſe be ſhewed, and declared before the King and his Parliament, whether it ought to be Judged Treaſon, or other Felony.

By an Act of Parliament made in the ſame year,

No perſon ſhall be compelled to make any Loans to the King, or charged with any benevolence. 25 E. 3. rot. Parl.

None ſhall be Condemned upon Suggeſtion, Impriſoned, nor put out of his Free-hold, nor his Franchiſes without Preſentment, but by the Law of the Land, or by Proceſs made by Writ Original at the Common Law, nor that none ſhall be ſent out of the Franchiſe or Free-hold, unleſs he be duly brought to anſwer, and forejudged by Courſe of the Law, and any thing done to the contrary, ſhall be holden for none. Ca. 4.

By an Act of Parliament made in the 5th year of the Reign of King *Richard* the Second, 5 R. 2. ca. 7.

None ſhall enter into Lands where it is not lawful, or with force, under the pain of Impriſonment, and Ranſom at the King's Will.

A Penalty is to be inflicted upon a Clerk of the Exchequer, which maketh out Proceſs for a Debt diſcharged. Ca. 5.

By the Statutes of the Fifth and Fifteenth of King *Richard* the Second, 5 R. 2. ca. 7. *where Lands or Tenements are entred and deteined by force, the next Juſtice of the Peace is Impow'red to view the force, and by the Power of the Sheriff and County to remove it, and Impriſon the Offenders; and by the Statute of* 8th *of* H. 6. *whether it be entred by force, or it be continued and not entred by force, may by a Jury impannel'd, and their Verdict, if the Deteiner hath not been Three years before in quiet poſſeſſion, reſeiſe the ſaid Lands and Tenements, and put the party ejected into his former poſſeſſion.*

A man Impleaded in the Exchequer, ſhall be received by himſelf, or any other to plead his Diſcharge. 5 R. 2. ca. 9.

By an Act of Parliament made in the 12th year of the aforeſaid King, *The Chancellor, Treaſurer, Keeper of the Privy Seal, Steward of the King's Houſe, the King's Chamberlain, Clerk of the Rolls, Juſtices of the one Bench and the other, Barons of the Exchequer, and all that ſhall be called to ordain or make Juſtices of Peace, Sheriffs, Eſcheators, Cuſtomers, Comptrollers, or any other Officer or Miniſter of the King, ſhall be firmly ſworn that they ſhall not make Juſtices of Peace, Sheriffs, Eſcheators, Cuſtomers, Comptroller, or any other Officer or Miniſter of the King, for any gift or brocage, favour or affection.* 12 R. 2. ca. 2.

13 R. 2. ca. 13 & 14. By an Act of Parliament made in the 13th year of the ſaid King's Reign, *He that will that Swear he oweth nothing to the King, ſhall be diſcharged, no Bonds or Recognizances ſhall be taken for the King's Debts.*

2 H. 4. 8. By an Act of Parliament made in the Second year of King *Henry* the Fourth, *An Aſſize ſhall be maintainable againſt the King's Patentee of Lands without any title found for the King by Inquiſition.*

4 H. 4. 8. By an Act of Parliament made in the 4th year of the Reign of the aforeſaid King, *a ſpecial Aſſize ſhall be maintainable againſt a Diſſeiſor by force.*

13 H. 4. 7. *Riots, Routs, and unlawful Aſſemblies are forbid,* by a Statute made in the 13th year of the aforeſaid King's Reign, *and the Juſtices of Peace near adjoyning Impowred to hear and determine the Offences; and if they cannot are to certifie the King and his Council thereof.*

2 H. 5. 8. By an Act of Parliament made in the ſecond year of the Reign of King *Henry* the 5th *Commiſſions are to be from time to time awarded to Inquire of the defaults of the Juſtices of Peace, Juſtices of the Aſſize, Sheriffs and under-Sheriffs, in not ſuppreſſing and puniſhing the ſame.*

1 R. 3. ca. 2. By an Act of Parliament made in the firſt year of King *Richard* the Third, *the Juſtices of Peace may let Priſoners to mainprize, that are Arreſted or Impriſoned for light ſuſpition of Felony or by Malice, and no Sheriff or other Officer ſhall ſeize the Goods of a Priſoner until he be attainted.*

23 H. 8. 3. By an Act of Parliament made in the 23th year of the Reign of King *Henry* the Eighth, *A Jury Convicted of giving a falſe Verdict, if it be for any thing demanded above the value of Forty pounds, and concerneth not the Jeopardy of a man's life, ſhall forfeit Twenty pounds a piece, the one half to the King, and the other to the Party that will ſue for the ſame, and Five pounds a piece; if the thing demanded be under the value of Twenty pounds, and every one of them in the one Caſe, and the other make fine, and ranſom by the diſcretion of the Judges, before whom ſuch falſe Verdict was given, never after be of any Credence, nor their Oaths accepted in any Court.*

32 H. 8. 33. By an Act of Parliament made in the 32 year of the ſaid King, *wrongful diſſeiſin ſhall be no diſſent in Law, except the Diſſeiſor ſhall have been five years in quiet Poſſeſſion without entry or continual Claim of thoſe who have lawful Title thereunto.*

33 H. 8. 39. *The Barons* of the *Exchequer* are by an Act of Parliament made in the 33th year of the aforeſaid King, *Authorized by Bills of Equity in the Exchequer Chamber, to acquit, diſcharge, or moderate all Recognizances, Debts, Detinues, Treſpaſſes, Waſtes, Deceipts, Defaults, Contempts and Forfeitures, (Treaſons, Murders, Felonies, Rights, Titles and Intereſt, as well of Inheritance as Free-hold only excepted) according to Equity and good Conſcience.*

By an Act of Parliament made in the 5th and 6th year of the Reign of King *Edward* the Sixth, *Great Penalties were laid upon thoſe that ſhould buy or ſell Offices concerning the Adminiſtration of Juſtice, or any Offices belonging to the King, all Contracts, Bonds, Promiſes, Covenants, and Bargains to be void, both as to the Buyer and Seller, and the taker of any Gift or Promiſe to forfeit his Nomination and Intereſt therein.*

31 Eliz. 3. By an Act of Parliament made in the 31th year of the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth,*

Three Proclamations ſhall be made in every Action Perſonal where an Exigent is awarded, and the Defendant before the allowance of any Writ of Error or Reverſal of the Utlary, ſhall be bound to anſwer the Plaintiff, and ſatisfie the Condemnation.

43 Eliz. 6. By an Act of Parliament made in the 43th year of the Reign of the aforeſaid Queen, *Every Sheriff, Under-Sheriff, or other Perſon making any Warrant for the Summons, Arreſt, or Attaching of any Perſon or their Goods, to appear in*

any

any of the Courts of Weſtminſter, *or procuring it without Original Writ or Proceſs to warrant the ſame, being Convicted thereof, ſhall be Impriſoned without Bail or Mainprize, until they ſhall have paid the party grieved Ten pounds, with all his other Damages, and Twenty pounds a piece for their Offence to the Queen, and (for the avoiding of Vexatious Actions) where any recovery is had for Debt or Damages for leſs than Forty ſhillings, or not above, no more Coſts ſhall be awarded by the Judge, than the Debt or Damages recovered.*

And by the Law Writs of *Habeas Corpus una Cum die & Cauſa Captionis*, are granted by the Courts of King's-Bench or Common Pleas; when any are Impriſoned by the King, or any other without Cauſe ſhewed to be Bailed if the Cauſe ſhall not appear to be Juſt and Legal.

And if any Man Impriſon any of the King's Subjects without juſt Cauſe, or enter upon, or take away any of their Eſtates againſt the Tenor of our *Magna Charta*, and *Charta Foreſtæ*, and many of our other excellent Laws and reaſonable Cuſtoms, he may, although it be by the King's Command, if not legal be puniſhed for the ſame.

And our *Magna Charta* and Liberties are ſo Bulwarked and Fortified, as every man may have reaſon enough to be aſſured, That the People of *England* and *Wales* cannot upon any Emergencies and Violations of Laws, want relief or Redreſs.

When the Juſtices in *Eyre* Inſtituted by King *Henry* the Second to ride their Circuits until they were by King *Edward* the Third changed into thoſe of Aſſizes, who in their Vernal and Autumnal Circuits, carrying the King's Juſtice, and Care of it, into every Shire and County of *England* and *Wales*, to prevent as much as might be their Travels and Expences, to ſeek it farther from home, did amongſt many other Articles and Matters concerning the King and his People, give in Charge to the Grand Juries of the ſeveral Cities and Counties of their Circuits, which were Men of good Eſtates, Knowledge, Experience and Concerns Sworn to preſent what they ſhould be charged to Inquire of; and direct them to Inquire and preſent falſe Weights and Meaſures, Lands ſeized into the King's hands which ought not to be ſeized, or being ordered to be reſtored were not, of thoſe that were amerced without reaſonable Cauſe, and not according to the Offence, or by their Peers, without a ſaving to their Contenement; a Merchant without a ſaving to him his Merchandize, and a Villain without ſaving his Waynage, and not by the Oaths of good and lawful Men of the Neighborhood; if any Earls and Barons were amerced but by their Peers, and after the manner of their Offences; and if any Man of the Church be amerced, otherwiſe than according to his Lay-Tenement, and after the quantity of his Offence, and by the Statute of *Marleborough*, made in the One and fiftieth year of King *Henry* the Third, of all other the breaches of the Laws and Liberties granted by *Magna Charta*, and the Charter of the Forreſt, and other Articles and Matters to be Inquired of, given unto them in Writing, and upon their Oaths to anſwer diſtinctly what they did know Affirmatively or Negatively.

When the Judges of the Court of King's Bench, who do yet retain the power of Juſtices in *Eyre*, do in every *Eaſter* and *Michaelmas* Term, by a Select Grand Jury of the County of *Middleſex*, cauſe an enquiry to be made (although it were to be wiſhed it might be after the antient manner by Articles delivered unto them in Writing, to be diſtinctly anſwered unto) Offences committed againſt the King, and his Crown and Dignity, of all Confederacies, Champerties, Maintenance, Treſpaſſes, Extortions and Grievances done to the King's Subjects, by any Arch-Biſhops, Biſhops, Dukes, Earls,

Stat. of *Marleborough*, Printed to be in 51 *H.* 3. ca. 5. but appeareth in the Record to have been only made in *Anno* 47 H. 3. and without the Preamble publiſhed by Mr. *Pulton*, as in 51 *H.* 3. *Bract.* lib. 3. de Corona. ca. 1. & *Fleta* lib. 1. ca. 19. & 20.

Earls, Barons, Servants, Officers, Coroners, and Miniſters of the King, or by any other whatſoever, of breach of the Peace, denying of Bail of thoſe who ought to be Bailed, and of all manner of Oppreſſions and Grievances of the People.

When the numerous Juſtices of Peace in every County, being as too many of them Baronets, Serjeants, and Men of Law, Knights, Eſquires, and Gentlemen of good Quality, Families, Eſtates and Education, are Sworn and imployed not only to be *Guardians and Conſervators of the Peace* of the King and his People, to ſuppreſs Felonies, Riots, and the lower and moſt Common ſort of Exorbitancies and Miſdemeanors, but to take Care of the Execution of many Laws and Statutes committed to their Truſt, and with the Method and Order appointed by our Laws and Ancient and reaſonable Cuſtoms of preſenting an Inquiry of Grievances by our many Court-Leets, Sheriffs, Tournes, and County Courts, Subordinate one under the other to the Superiour Courts of *Weſtminſter*, and they unto their Supream Authority, the King. It will be the Peoples own fault, and neglect of their own Concernments; if any Grievances or Oppreſſion paſs undiſcernable, uncomplained of, or unpuniſhed, or if any Arbitrary Power or Extravagances do invade or break in upon the Nation, who by the fence and care of our Laws, and many times Confirmed Liberties, which for more than 500 years laſt paſt, have been building, repairing, and poliſhing to a perfection more than the *Hebrew*, *Greek*, or *Roman* Laws did ever attain unto (the Laws which God himſelf made for that peculiar people only excepted.)

And may, if by our Sins and Provocations of God Almighty, the Inſpector of our unparallel'd Miſdeeds, and Puniſher of them, when his wrath ſhall be kindled, and have no longer patience, the Walls of our Happineſs ſhall not be demoliſhed, our Liberties put to the Sword, and our Laws led into Captivity, be as ſafe as Humane Prudence, and Laws can poſſibly make them.

More eſpecially when our Courts of Juſtice at *Weſtminſter-Hall*, are governed by Judges and Men of great Wiſdom and Integrity, Sworn to obſerve the Laws, and Judge according to their Direction; and our Lawyers at the Bars freely permitted with fitting reference rightly to inform and plead their Clients Caſes.

And the King's high Court of *Chancery*, the *Officina Juſtitiæ*, under the *Teſte me ipſo*, of the Watchman under God of our *Iſrael*, Superintending over them giveth Writs remedial to all that ask for them with helps for extraordinary Emergencies, or to allay the Severity of Laws, and makes it its buſineſs to puniſh and forbid Frauds and Oppreſſions. The Maſters of *Chancery* Annually ſtipended by the King *formare Brevia originalia remedialia*, and to be Aſſiſtants ſubordinately to that High and Honourable Court in matters of Accompt and References.

13 E.1. ca.14. The Rule of *Chancery* being ever ſince the Statute of *Weſtm'* the ſecond made in the 13th year of the Reign of King *Edward* the Firſt, *quod nullus recedat à Cancellaria ſine remedio & Concordent Clerici*, and the Officers and Clerks of the *Chancery* thereunto appointed, are from time to time to do their utmoſt endeavours to provide Remedies for all that Complain, *Nè Juſtitia deficeret Conquerentibus*. And as to leſſer Matters of Complaints, and often Emergencies, Penſioneth by good yearly Salaries, 4 Learned and venerable Men of worth, called Maſters of Requeſts, or *Supplicationum & libellorum* who by turns and courſes each Maſter, being deputed to his Month, have their audience Twice or oftener in that Time of the King, to give Anſwers to their Petitions.

And the King in matters wherein any of his Rights, and what appertaineth unto him are concerned, gives his People leave by Petition, or *monſtrans*

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du droit Traverſes *ouſtre les mames*, &c. to obtain what they can prove to be due unto them, and where any of his Letters Patents are grievous and againſt the Law, ſuffers them to be repealed by Writs of *Scire facias* brought againſt the Patentees.

And if any of the People ſhould be ſo unhappy in the Intrigues or Difficulties of their Caſes, as they cannot be relieved by any of thoſe provided Remedies from any ſuppoſed Arbitrary Power of their Prince, or any Illegal oppreſſing Actions of one Subject againſt another, they have the Liberty of Appeals from the Inferior Courts of Juſtice, to the Superior, and in Matters concerning breach of the Peace, and of Miſdemeanors within the Cogniſance of the Juſtices of Peace, may appeal from them to the Juſtices of Aſſize, and from them to the King and his *Chancellor*, or *Lord Keeper*, of the Great Seal of *England*; and if not by any of thoſe ways to be relieved, are in Caſes (not concerning Free-hold) not debarred their Appeals to the King, and his Privy Council, where they are, the King himſelf being very often preſent, judiciouſly and deliberately heard upon all the Pleas and Arguments which the Councel Learned in the Law on both ſides, can make one againſt the other.

And Remedies alſo againſt all the Aſſaults of Grievances, are not difficult to be come at in the Eccleſiaſtical Courts, and Courts of Admiralty, where when the Subjects Complaints cannot be remedied, they do eaſily obtain the King's Commiſſion of Delegates to other Judges, and if that do not anſwer their Expectations, may have a Commiſſion of Adjuncts to other Judges to be added unto them.

And in theſe or other Courts where the Potency of the one part, and the Poverty of the other, hath diſabled the weaker, from attending the formalities of Juſtice, or croud of many other Cauſes, he may have a Commiſſion *ob lites dirimendas*, granted by the King out of his High Court of Chancery, to ſome good and wiſe men to endeavor as much as they can a more ſpeedy Remedy.

The *Dermier Reſort* laſt Appeal *& ultimum refugium* of the People in their ſeeking for Juſtice, being ſo neceſſarily Inherent in the Crown, as none but they that wear it, can juſtly claim any Right unto it, but have always been enjoyed not only by our *Britiſh*, *Saxon*, and *Daniſh* Kings before the *Norman* Conqueſt, but all our Kings which Succeeded them.

And if there they find no help, are like enough, if there be cauſe of Juſtice in their Complaints not to fail of Relief by Petition to the King, when he is aſſiſted with the advice of his Lords and Commons in Parliament.

All which, with many other Laws and reaſonable Cuſtoms, Priviledges and Liberties, like ſo many Cittadels, Block-houſes, Out-works, and Strong Caſtles and Forts, which divers of our ancient and reaſonable Cuſtoms, and Acts of Parliament have in the making of other Laws from time to time been careful upon all occaſions to erect and build, to help to guard and protect their Liberties, Rights and Priviledges, together with the very great care which the Judges reſtraining all *non obſtantes* of Acts of Parliament, and Regal Diſpenſations unto what the Law allows, or to the King's particular Concernments, do take in all their Judgments and Deciſions, Expoſitions, Applications and Interpretations of Laws to aſſiſt and ſupport the juſt Rights and Proprieties of the Subjects in their Lands and Eſtates, and not in the leaſt to prejudice them in their Common Aſſurances by Fines and Common Recoveries.

The Severity uſed by divers of our Kings in the Puniſhment of Briberies, Extortions or Byaſſed and Illegal flattering Opinions of Judges.

The Oaths of the Lords and others of the King's Privy Council, who are uſually the Greateſt, Noble, and moſt concerned Men of Eſtate and Intereſt of the Nation.

Oath of the Lord *Chancellor* or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, well and truly to ſerve the King and his People, and to do right to all manner of People according to the Law and Uſages of the Realm.

Oaths of the Judges, 18 *E.* 3.

Oaths of the Judges to do equal Law and execution of Right to all the King's Subjects, rich and poor, without having regard to any Perſon, to deny no man Common Right by the King's Letters, nor none other Mans, nor for none other Cauſe.

Oaths of the King's *Serjeants* at *Law*, well and truly to ſerve him and his People, and as duly and haſtily ſpeed ſuch Matters as any Man ſhall have againſt the King in the Law, as they may lawfully do without delay, or tarrying the Party for his lawful Proceſs.

The Oaths of other Serjeants at Law, well and truly to ſerve the King and his People, and truly Counſel them.

Oaths of the Juſtices of Peace to do equal right to the Poor, as to the Rich; after the Laws and Cuſtoms of the Realm and Statutes thereof made.

Oaths of the Sheriffs to do right to Poor as well as Rich, in all that belongeth to their Office, to diſturb no Man's Right; nor to do wrong to any Man.

And the Oaths of the Eſcheators, Clerks of the Chancery, and Coroners, with the Oaths of the Officers of Courts, Under-Sheriffs and Bailiffs, well and to execute Juſtice.

All which ſeveral *Degrees* of Men in the Nation would be as unwilling as any others to have the Lives, Liberties, and Eſtates of themſelves and their Poſterities or deareſt Relations, ſacrificed to a lawleſs and unlimitted Power of their Kings and Princes.

And the Oaths of our Kings at their ſeveral Coronations to conſerve the Liberties of the People, and obſerve all the good Laws made by their Royal Progenitors and Predeceſſors, with the Impoſſibility that ever the Lords and Commons in Parliament Aſſembled, will conſent to the abrogating of any of the aforeſaid Laws and reaſonable Cuſtoms, be *felones de ſe*, or deliver up themſelves and their Poſterities to the abſolute Will and Pleaſure of their Succeeding Kings and Princes may abundantly evidence how ſafely and ſecurely the Property and Liberties of the People, until Rebellion, fooliſhly fancied Fears and Jealouſies with their Diſcords, diſtruſt and plundering of one another, ſhall put them under ſuch another yoke as *Oliver Cromwell* had cheated them into, may reſt, and are like inviolably to continue for ever, protected againſt any the Incroachments of Arbitrary Power, whilſt they live under their King's ancient Government.

Of which His late Majeſty was ſo careful and ſo willing to diſlodge all manner of Jealouſies out of the Minds of his Subjects, as he did in the Third year of his Reign, give his Royal Aſſent, as they call'd it, unto their *Petition of Right*, and made it an Act of Parliament, wherein he not only Confirmed their *Magna Charta*, and *Charta Foreſtæ*; but the Act of Parliament aſſented unto by King *Edward* the Firſt *De Tallagio non Concedendo*: The Act of Parliament made in the Firſt year of the Reign of King *Edward* the Third, *cap.* 6. The Act of Parliament made in the 25th year of the Reign of the aforeſaid King, That no Man ſhould be compelled to make any Loans to the King againſt his will. The Statutes of the 28 *E.* 3. *ca.* 3. 37 *E.* 3. *ca.* 18. 38 *E.* 3. *ca.* 9. 42 *E.* 3. *ca.* 3. 11 *R.* 2. *ca.* 9. 17 *R.* 2. *ca.* 6. and 1 *R.* 3. *ca.* 2. Charged all his Officers and Miniſters to ſerve him according to the Laws and Statutes of the Realm, as they tendered the Honour of his Majeſty, and the Proſperity of the Kingdom. Baniſhed as he hoped for ever all their Fears of the Infringing of their Liberties, and given cauſe of Content to them and that Parliament, to ſuch a ſatiety, ſuch a fulneſs, and *ne plus ultra*, as unleſs they would have been

Petition of Right, *Anno* 3 *Car. Primi.*

been *Conſortes Imperii*, and require to have a ſhare in his Regality and Government; there was no more to be asked or requeſted of him, or granted by him.

Impriſoned ſhortly after in the Tower of *London*, *John* Earl of *Clare*, and the greatly Learned *Selden*, for but having Copies in their Cuſtody of ſome *Florentine* and Foreign Laws and Cuſtoms propoſed by Sir *Robert Dudley*, a Titular Duke of *Tuſcany*, to be imitated by him here in *England*, as a means to raiſe Money by Impoſitions laid upon the People, and cauſed his *Attorney General* to exhibit a Bill againſt them in the Star-Chamber for Diſquieting his Subjects with Fears and Jealouſies.

And was ſo ready from time to time to Condeſcend to their Infirmities, and give Satisfaction to them in all their Concerns and Scruples, as he ſuffered thoſe two great Caſes of the *Habeas Corpus*, and the *Ship Money* wherein his neceſſary Prerogative, for the good of himſelf and his People, was not a little concerned, to be publickly and ſolemnly argued in the Courſe and Method of the Laws *in foro Contradictorio* before the Judges, and ſhewed no diſpleaſure afterwards, but much kindneſs unto Juſtice *Hutton*, and Juſtice *Croke*, who in the Caſe of the *Ship Money* had in their Arguments and Opinions delivered thereupon againſt him in the *Exchequer Chamber*, diſſented from all the reſt and greater number of the Judges.

And His now Royal Majeſty treading the good old Paths of Queen *Elizabeth*, his Grandfather King *James*, and his *Royal Father*, doth in all Matters of difficulty in the abſence of Parliaments, where the Laws and Juſtice of the Nation are likely to be more than ordinarily concerned, conſult and adviſe with the Judges, hath not long ago *Superſeded* one of them for ſome harſh uſage, and diſcontent given to the Countrey in his Circuits, and takes all the care he can to chooſe and make *Judges*, and his Learned Council at the Law out of the moſt able, honeſt, experienced, and eminent practiſers of it, and hath but lately in ſeveral of his Speeches in Parliament declared and promiſed, that he would give his conſent unto any good Laws which ſhould be by them deſired for the further ſecuring of their Religion, Liberties, and Properties, and not long ago anſwered private and particular Perſons of ordinary Quality, Petitioning him for Right to be done unto them in Matters of Law, and ſome of his own Concernments, that *God forbid, but his People ſhould have Liberty to demand right of him, as well as againſt any of their fellow Subjects.*

They therefore who do over-buſie themſelves in the carrying about the Buz of falſe and incertain rumours, and the dreadful Imaginations of an Arbitrary and Lawleſs Power, which may be hoped will never happen, nor be able if any ſhould deſire it to Attack and Demoliſh thoſe Impregnable Fortreſſes, which our Laws right reaſon long continued good and reaſonable Cuſtoms of *England*, have built and provided againſt it.

And do make ſuch lamentable Outcries and Exclamations againſt Arbitrary Power before it happens, or they can perceive any likelihood of it, and in their Ill-tutor'd Logick would perſuade themſelves and others it is ſo; becauſe they are pleaſed to fancy it is poſſible it may be ſo, and cannot be quiet, but do think themſelves ill uſed, if they may not be permitted like the *Andabatæ* to fight with their own ſhadows, and be not a little commended, magnified, and accompted good Patriots for it.

Blench at every thing, turn their Follies into all kinds of Fears and Jealouſies, and ſo ſtrongly fancy them as if they were actually upon them, and will not be perſuaded but the *King will deliver us up to Popery and Arbitrary Power, and to that end the King of* France *hath viewed and founded our Ports and Havens, and with great Armies is ready to invade, deſtroy, or make Slaves of*

of us and our Generations. But may do better to give ſome reſpite to thoſe their needleſs Affrights, and pauſing a while ſit down and conſider,

What greater aſſurance his now Majeſty, could give to his Subjects, or they deſire, than what he declar'd in his Speech to the Houſe of Commons in *March*, 1661? *Gentlemen, I hear and am very ſolicitous, I thank you for it, ſince I preſume it proceeds* from a good Root of Piety and Devotion; *But I muſt tell you, I have the worſt luck in the world, if after all the reproaches of being a Papiſt when I was Abroad, I am ſuſpected of being a Presbyterian now I am come Home; I know you will not take it unkindly, if I tell you that I am as Zealous for the Church of* England, *as any of you can be, and am as much in love with the Book of Common-Prayer as you can wiſh, and have prejudice enough to thoſe that do not love it; And do as much deſire to ſee an Uniformity ſetled as any amongſt you; I pray you truſt me in that Affair.*

In the year 1664. tells them, *I do aſſure you upon my word, and I pray you believe me, That I have no other Thoughts or Deſign in my heart, but to make you all Happy in the Support of the Religion and Laws eſtabliſhed.*

In the ſame year, when they brought him a Bill for the Repeal of the Act of Parliament to exclude the Biſhops out of the Houſe of Peers; He ſaid, *I thank you with all my heart, indeed as much as I can do for any thing, for the Repeal of that Act: It was an unhappy Act in an unhappy Time, paſſed with many unhappy Circumſtances, and attended with miſerable Events; and therefore I do again thank you for Repealing of it, you have thereby reſtored Parliaments to their Primitive Inſtitutions.*

In his Speech unto both Houſes in *Anno* 1672. ſaid, *That he would conclude with this aſſurance, that I will preſerve the true Proteſtant Religion, and the Church as it is now eſtabliſh'd in this Kingdom, and in the whole courſe of the Diſſenters, I do not intend that it ſhall any ways prejudice the Church; but I will ſupport its Rights and its full Power.*

In *January* 1673. ſaid, *If there be any thing elſe which you think wanting to ſecure Religion, there is nothing which you ſhall reaſonably propoſe, but I ſhall be ready to receive it.*

In *April* 1675. ſaid, *The Principal end of his calling the Parliament now, is to know what you think may be yet wanting to the ſecurity of Religion, and to give my Self the ſatisfaction of having done the utmoſt of my Endeavours.*

In *February* 1679. ſaid to both Houſes of his Parliament, *I declare my Self very plainly unto you, that I am prepar'd to give you all the Satisfaction and Security in the great Concern of the Proteſtant Religion, as it is eſtabliſh'd in the Church of* England, *that ſhall reaſonably be ask'd, or can conſiſt with Chriſtian Prudence.*

6 March 1678. *I do give you this aſſurance, that I will with my Life defend both the Proteſtant Religion, and the Laws of this Kingdom.*

In *January* 1673. *If there be any thing you think wanting to ſecure Property, there is nothing which you ſhall reaſonably propoſe, but I ſhall be ready to receive it.*

Febr. 15. 1676. ſaid to His Two Houſes of Parliament, *I do declare my Self freely, that I am ready to gratifie you in a further Security of your Liberty and Property* (if you can think you want it) *by as many good Laws as you ſhall propoſe, and as can conſiſt with the Safety of the Government, without which, there will neither be Liberty nor Property left unto any Man. And let all men Judge who is moſt for Arbitrary Government, they that foment ſuch Differences as tend to Diſſolve all Parliaments; or I, that would preſerve this and all Parliaments from being made uſeleſs by ſuch Diſſolutions.*

And remember that there was a Time not long ago, when the Phanatick Party, who at this Time are too great a part of *England*, and ſome of the

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Presbyterians were not in the heretofore juſtly ſtiled the Long and Rebellious part of a Parliament ſo much afraid of Arbitrary Government as now they do ſeem to be.

When in that Long and Unhappy miſnamed Parliament they procured to be Voted down as many as they could of their Soveraign's Rights, Methods, and means of Government in an Ancient and well Eſtabliſhed *Monarchy*, overturned *Peerage*, *Epiſcopacy*, *Tenures*, and many other of our Fundamental Laws, warranted by the Laws of God and this Nation, and as if they feared that Rebellion, raiſing of Armies, and Chacing and Fighting againſt their Pious and Religious King, who never gave them any Cauſe for it (if any Cauſe at all can ever be aſſigned, or able to juſtifie Rebellion) ſhould not be Sin enough, made all the haſt they could to add Sacrilege unto it, and placed in themſelves an Arbitrary and boundleſs Authority over him, unto whom they had Sworn an Allegiance due to Superiority, trampled upon all their fellow Subjects, Plundered, Sequeſtred, and did all they could to Perjure the Loyal part of them, deſtroyed the Privileges of Parliament, ſuffered ſome of their own Members to be pulled out of the Houſe of Commons, and Impriſoned by Soldiers and Red-Coats (one whereof was by his own Confeſſion an *Iriſh Popiſh* Prieſt) and by the Aſſiſtance of their over-pow'ring Army, voted down, ſuppreſſed, and ſhut up the Houſe of Peers, as uſeleſs and dangerous, inforced themſelves into a Republick and the Nation, who by the Laws of God and the King, and their Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, were bound as well as themſelves to the contrary, to Ingage never more to admit of a King and Houſe of Lords, and in ſome of their Anſwers to their Brethren of *Scotland*, who urged and taxed them with ſome of their Promiſes concerning His late Majeſty, ſaid that they hoped they would not make their *Promiſes* to be *Obligations*. And in their Declaration Printed and Publiſhed to give Satisfaction to all the World, that would believe them of the Reaſons of their Actions; and turning themſelves into a Common-wealth, endeavoured to aſſert that in all *Promiſes* a Tacite Condition and Proviſo was ever to be underſtood as annexed unto them, *So always that they did not prejudice or inconvenience the Party promiſing.*

And forgetting that they had proſecuted the late Earl of *Strafford*, and cauſed him to be put to Death, upon a pretence of his Subverſion of Laws, which he never did, but they themſelves really and frequently did, Murdered their King, Baniſhed His now Majeſty the Prince, and the reſt of his Children, and uſed their utmoſt endeavors to Extirpate all the Royal Progeny, ſcorned and abuſed the Laws, tumbled, toſſed and ploughed up the Liberties, Proprieties and Eſtates of the Loyal Party, and made ſome *Ignotos* and inviſible (they themſelves never knew) and who were leſs to be underſtood than King *Oberon* and his Fairy Queen, to be ſtiled the Keepers of the Liberties of *England*, voted the Courts of *Chancery*, *King's-Bench*, *Common Pleas*, and *Exchequer* to be diſſolved, and ordered the Records thereof to be deſtroyed and thrown into the River of *Thames*, and were not all that while in dread of any *Arbitrary Power*, and a *Standing Army*, when to the great Charge of the People they could not think themſelves ſafe without it. But tamely ſuffered *Oliver Cromwel*, *their Man of Sin* and greateſt of Hypocrites to put a trick upon them, and teach them the Truth and Doctrine of Divine Retalliation by diſſolving the Reliques of the over-long Parliament, pulling out the remaining Members with Soldiers and Muſquettiers, and ſhutting up the Doors of that *Houſe of Commons*, and could for the Preſervation of their ill-gotten Eſtates, like *Iſachar*, bow down unto the burden, and be well content to believe it to be no violation of the Privileges of Parliament, no Arbitrary Power or Introduction to it, nor any Deſtruction of the Liberties of

the People, and ſuffer him upon the 16th of *December* 1653. in the preſence of the Commanders and Officers of his Army, attended by the miſcalled Lords Commiſſioners of the pretended great Seal of *England*, Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of *London*, divers of the over-awed Judges of the Land, and many other Perſons, ſaid to be of Quality, to declare himſelf by an Inſtrument in Writing of his own framing, Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; Diſannul and Abrogate the antient form of Parliaments, conſtitute a New, and Ordain that the Perſons Elected to be Members for ever afterwards ſhould be approved by the major part of his Council, and the ſucceeding *Protectors*; who were moſt of them *Major Generals* and Commanders in his Standing Army of Oppreſſors: That an yearly Revenue ſhould be raiſed, ſettled, and eſtabliſhed for the maintaining of *Ten Thouſand* Horſe and Dragoons, and *Twenty Thouſand* Foot in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, for the Defence and Security thereof; and a Convenient Number of Ships for guarding of the Seas; beſides *Two hundred thouſand Pounds* per Annum, for defraying the other neceſſary Charges and Expences of the Government.

Which Revenues were to be raiſed by the Cuſtoms, and ſuch other ways and means as ſhould be agreed upon by him and his Council.

Oliver Cromwel's Inſtrument of Government.

That the Lands, Tenements, Rents, Royalties, Juriſdictions, and Hereditaments, which remained unſold and undiſpoſed by Acts or Ordinances of Parliament belonging to the Common-Wealth (except the Foreſts and Chaſes, and the Honors and Mannors appertaining thereunto) the Lands of the Rebels in *Ireland*, and the four Counties of *Dublin*, *Cork*, *Kildare*, and *Caterlaugh*; the Lands forfeited by the People of *Scotland* in the late Wars, and the Lands of Papiſts and Delinquents in *England*, who had not then Compounded, ſhould together with the Debts, Fines, Iſſues, Amerciaments, Penalties, and Profits certain and caſual, due to the Keepers of the Liberties of *England* by Authority of Parliament, be veſted in the Lord Protector and his Succeſſors Lord Protectors of the aforeſaid Nations, not to be aliened but by conſent of Parliament; which made him no leſs an yearly Revenue, as ſome of his own Party did calculate it then *Eighteen hundred Thouſand Pounds ſterling*, per Annum.

That for the preventing of Diſorders and Dangers which might fall out both at Sea and Land, he ſhould have Power until the meeting of the firſt Parliament (which was to be once in every Three years) to raiſe Money for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

And to make Laws and Ordinances for the Peace and welfare of theſe Nations, which ſhould be binding and in force until order ſhould be taken in Parliament concerning the ſame.

That the exerciſe of the Chief Magiſtrate, and the Adminiſtration of the Government over the ſaid Countries and Dominions ſhould be in the Lord Protector, aſſiſted with a Council not exceeding Twenty one, or leſs than Thirteen.

That he ſhould in the Intervals of Parliament, diſpoſe and order the *Militia* and Forces of the Three Nations for the Peace and good thereof, with the advice and conſent of the major part of his Council.

That the Number of 60 Elected and choſen or approved as aforeſaid (being eaſie enough to be tempted by Preferment, or over-awed by a ſtanding Army) ſhould be deemed a Parliament for the Three Kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; That he and every ſucceſſive Lord *Protector*, ſhould take an Oath that he would not Violate or Infringe the matters and things contained in that Inſtrument of Government.

And when afterwards to prevent the Juries Scruples of Conſcience and unwillingneſs to give their Verdicts againſt the Law, and the King's Loyal Party, as he would have them, erected in *Weſtminſter-Hall* his High Court of Juſtice, or *Shambles*, as ſome of the People not unfitly termed it, adorned with Red and Blood-demonſtrating Colours, to Try and Condemn ſuch Innocent Perſons as he ſhould call Offenders; not according to the Law, but the unbounded rules of his vulgar Reaſon of State, guided by a ſtanding Army of 30000 Horſe and Foot, baffled and diſgraced the Laws and reaſonable Cuſtoms of *England*, maimed and cut off as much as he could of it, as *Adonizedek* did the Thumbs and Toes of his Captive Kings; altered and deſtroyed all he could the form and rationality of the Proceedings thereof, and cauſed the Writs and Pleadings, form and frame thereof to be tranſlated, and only uſed in the *Engliſh* Language, on purpoſe and with a deſign to Abrogate them, and make way for a new Fabrick and Engine of Laws, for the eſtabliſhing of his intended abſolute manner of Arbitrary Government; encouraged and Penſioned Mr. *White* a profeſt Papiſt, and Mr. *Hobbs*, Men of great Learning, which might have been better Imployed, to Write and Publiſh Books to vindicate and juſtifie the neceſſity of an Abſolute Power in Supreme Magiſtracy; and others to Write and Publiſh their unſound Opinions, that Copyhold Eſtates were a Badge of the *Norman* Slaveries; that the eldeſt Sons or only Daughters in every Family had no right to any more than a double Portion of their Father's real Eſtate; that Univerſity-Learning was needleſs, with a purpoſe to Confiſcate their Revenues; and Payment of Tythes unlawful; permitted Servants to betray and ſequeſter their Maſters, Tenants their Landlords, Wives their Husbands, and Children their Parents; only becauſe they were unwilling to be Perjured in their new Oaths and Ingagements, or wretchedly willing to forſake their Loyalty and the Laws of God and the Kingdom; ſuffered his illiterate Commanders to threaten to pull the Gowns from off the Lawyers Backs, and Publickly to declare, That it would never be well until their Gowns were like the Colours taken from their Subdued *Scots* Brethren hung up in *Weſtminſter-Hall*; made his Major Generals Governors in ſeveral Provinces, who abuſing and domineering over the Laws, Impriſoned men without Cauſe, and ſuffered the Nobility of *England* to ſtand bare and uncovered before them, and to be Arreſted and Drag'd in the Streets by Bailiffs and Catchpoles for Debt, when they had nothing left to pay them; Prohibited, ejected Orthodox Miniſters to bring Actions at Law for recovery of their Rights; and all others to demand or ſeek to recover at Law their Debts or other Rights, by any Actions or Suits in Law or Equity, unleſs they took the aforeſaid Engagement againſt the King and Houſe of Lords; tired and almoſt ſtarved with tricks and delays, the poor deprived Miniſters Wives and Children of their fifth part of the Profits of their Husbands and Fathers Benefices, which they ſeemed to allow unto them; gave a conſiderable yearly Salary duly paid to *Lilly* the fooling and cozening Aſtrologer, to foretel in his *State* as well as *weather* Almanacks, good or bad Events, to Lacquy after his accurſed Deſigns, and poſitively aſſert by his pretended intimacy with the Stars, that in ſuch a year before His Majeſtie's happy Reſtauration, Prince *Rupert*, who God be thanked is yet living, was certainly to be Hanged.

Conſtituted a Houſe compoſed of his Army Commanders, and ſome other of his *Nymrods* and Deputy-oppreſſors, many whereof had been formerly well inſtructed in the Arts of *Coblers*, *Draymen*, and *Bodies-making*, &c. and inſtead of an Houſe of *Peers*, called it the *Other Houſe*. And when Mr. *Coney* a *London* Merchant, being Impriſoned againſt the Law without a Cauſe ſhewn, had brought his *Habeas Corpus* to be Bailed, ſent Mr. *Maynard*, Mr. *Twiſden*, and Mr. *Wadham Wyndham* his Lawyers, Priſoners to the Tower of *London*;

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for Pleading for him, and the Liberties of the People; and called out *Magna Charta, Magna farta*; Prohibited all Lawyers to Plead for any of the Sequeſtred Orthodox Miniſtry, that would not crouch under, and kiſs the Rod of their Perſecution.

Many notwithſtanding of thoſe better now than they were before Informed Members of that over-long and unhappy Parliament, and continued to be Members of Parliament through all the Changes; from thence to *Oliver*, and from *Oliver* to his Son *Dick*, ſeemed not then to be out of love with thoſe new Authorities or over-turning *Rota*'s of Government, Laws, and Liberties.

And too many of the gaining and *Phanatick* Party, who might have foreſeen the diſmal Apprehenſions of an approaching Arbitrary Power, had in the days of *Oliver* and his Son Mr. *Richard* ſo little a dread, or were not ſo much afraid of it (when they had reaſon to have been a great deal more) as they being no ſmall Gainers by it rejoyced in it, thought themſelves happily placed in the bleſſed Land of *Canaan*, and Conducted into it by the hand of Heaven, and Singing a *Magnificat* to *Oliver*, and a *Requiem* to themſelves, and their choſen Poſterity, could be at no reſt until *they* had obtained Declarations out of many Counties and Cities, ſubſcribed by the moſt conſiderable Men of their Rebellious and Sacrilegious Party, and cauſed them to be Printed and delivered unto his Counterfeit *Highneſs*, with Solemn Addreſſes upon their Knees, and other actions of Veneration, by ſome of their moſt active Accomplices; wherein they ſtiled *Oliver*, *Moſes* and *Joſhua*; made up his Praiſes with almoſt Blaſphemy, and prayed for the continuance of his Care for their Protection, and as they called it the Publick Good; and were after his Death as buſie with the like Adoration; ſeveral ſolemn Declarations, Addreſſes and Thankſgivings to his Son *Richard*'s ridiculous parcel of *Highneſs*.

Wherefore they who were then ſo willing to bow their Necks under the hard galling Iron yoke, which a Long Parliament by Colour of a falſe Authority, aſſiſtance of a ſtanding Army, and a Rebel Brewer had put upon them.

And to take Arms againſt their own Happineſs, and betray their own good Laws, Liberties, Privileges and Cuſtoms to Uſurpers, which were ſo unparallel'd, as the Devil with a pair of Spectacles cannot upon the moſt malicious and exacteſt ſearch, find any Nation under Heaven ſo happy and bleſſed as *England* hath been, in the ſecurity of their Liberties, Properties and Privileges, ſince the beginning of the Reign of King *Henry* the Firſt, thorough the Reigns of all our Succeeding Kings; who upon the leaſt appearance or complaints of Grievances, either as to particulars or generals, *rarò contingentibus*; or but feared or likely to happen, never denied good Laws and Remedies to their People, as all our Law-Books, Year-Books, Reports of Caſes, Adjudged Parliament Rolls, and Books of Statutes will abundantly teſtifie; may with ſhame and horror of ſo foul and grand ingratitude recall to their remembrance, that they that were the Diſciples of the late Wars and Uſurpations, and gainers by the Ruin and Miſery of this, and two other Kingdoms, by their Arts and Power of cheating and haring their fellow Subjects out of their Loyalty, Religion, Eſtates, Laws, and Liberties.

Could be well contented to receive of His Majeſty after his Return from his Diſtreſſes, not only a Pardon (unto all, but a few excepted) of their great and many Offences and Miſdeeds, after that he had by ſeveral Acts of Parliament Unfornicated or Unadulterated the Wives and Husbands, and Legitimated the Children of thoſe that were miſ-married, and taken away the Errors of their Illegal Proceedings and Judgments,

ments, and Recoveries had at Law, in the time of their many years abominable Rebellion; but the greateſt acquital of Money, Arrears, and Forfeitures due unto him, amounting unto many Millions Sterling, that ever any People of *England* had and received of any of their Kings and Princes at once, with an Addition afterwards of another Pardon or Abolition of a leſſer ſize, for Offences and Forfeitures ſince committed, and did not only reſtore unto all the Cities, Boroughs, and Corporations of *England* and *Wales*, their forfeited Charters, Privileges, and Liberties; but enlarged and gave unto many of them, more than they had before.

And was ſo unwilling to Puniſh thoſe that had done him and his Royal Father, Mother, Brothers, & Siſters, thoſe almoſt impoſſible to be forgotten or forgiven moſt execrable Villanies, as he not only Pardoned, but gave them profitable Employments; who to their ſhame cozened him all they could and moulded themſelves into a Faction of Repeating as many Impieties as they had been guilty of before, and was ſo over Clement and forgiving, as he imployed, and did not Puniſh one that was proved to have ſaid after His Majeſtie's eſcape from the Battel of *Worceſter*, That if he had been taken, he ought to have been ſtripped ſtark Naked, led through the Streets with a Bridle thruſt through an hole bored in his Noſe, Whipped at a Carts tail, and afterwards Hanged.

Are not to be very angry, or take it ill if they be charged with Partiality or Injuſtice; or as great a Reproach as our Bleſſed *Saviour* beſtowed upon the over-quick-ſighted fault-finding *Phariſee*, who could eſpy a mote (as he thought in another's eye, but not ſee a beam in his own) but rather retire into themſelves; and upon a more ſtrict Examination of their paſt evil Actions, abhor themſelves in duſt and aſhes, cover their heads with ſhame, weep, repent, and reſolve to walk retrograde, and perſiſt no more in the gain-ſaying of *Corah*, *Dathan*, and *Abiram*; wherein they periſhed.

When they who would make every body as much afraid as they themſelves, do ſeem to fear an Inclination in His Majeſty to an Arbitrary Power, which he never did, or is willing to exerciſe, can almoſt every day joyn with others in Complaints of the no few of the Subordinate Magiſtrates, uſurping it againſt the mind and direction of the King and his Laws over their fellow Subjects, by their Irregular courſes; Condemning, and many times Impriſoning without Jury, Trial, legal Hearing, or Proceedings.

And eaſily diſcern an yearly Cuſtom of an illegally over-ſtrained Power in the Lord *Maiors* of *London*; Electing and Drinking unto many or more than needs, in the Choice of two to be Sheriffs of *London* and *Middleſex* for the enſuing year; and impoſing and taking great Fines of the Refuſers, unto whom he needed not to have Drank, whereby to gain ſome Thouſands of Pounds yearly for the Fines of ſuch as were unwilling or unfit to bear the Charge or Expence of thoſe Offices, and Impriſon and Conſtrain them to pay them; which are ſeldom leſs than 4 or 500 *l.* upon every ſuch Refuſer. As if ſome fatal and ſucceſſive Annual, or fit of Thirſt, or kind Drinking, was at a certain Time of every year to fall upon the Lord Maiors of that City to Drink more often, and unto more than he ſhould do. And they that ſhall happen to be ſo impoſed upon, are ſure to be out of hopes of getting themſelves diſcharged of Impriſonment, for not paying the Fine by Writs of *Habeas Corpus* and Bail; which if the King ſhould do every year in the Choice of Three preſented unto him to ſerve as Sheriffs in all other Counties and Places of *England* and *Wales*, (no other City or Place therein making uſe of ſuch a kind and loving Device to raiſe Moneys) the *Habeas Corpora* Bells would Ring in all the Courts of Juſtice in *Weſtminſter-Hall*; and His Majeſty would be troubled with the noiſe thereof.

And no ſmall Arbitrary Power in their Courts of Orphants in *London*, by Impriſoning a young Man in *Newgate* without Bail or Mainpriſe, that had lawfully Married a City Orphant, and his Father in like manner for contriving it.

And we may often hear and obſerve in the *Guilds*, *Fraternities*, and Companies of Trade, and their Myſteries in the City of *London*, an almoſt unbounded over abſolute Power in their *By-Laws*, which ſhould be peruſed (as it is more than a little probable they are not, or but very ſeldom or curſorily) by the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, Lord Treaſurer, and the two Lord Chief Juſtices, and allowed by them or any three of them, to be according to the Law; together with their giving of unlawful Oaths, impoſing of Taxes, Quarteridges, or Fines and Aſſeſſements as they pleaſe upon the Poorer ſort of the Companies of Trades, ſupernumerating their Livery Men in their Companies, in making them to be twice as many as they were wont to be, and inforcing them to Pay 20 or 25 *l.* a Man, and be at the Charge of a reverend Gown faced with Furrs of *Foynes* or *Budge*; and Impriſon Men for not obeying them and their grinding ſuperfluous Orders.

19 *H.* 7. *ca.* 7.

The Exactions and Arbitrary Power of the Church-Officers in the City of *London*, and its overgrown Suburb Pariſhes, in the Renting of Pews and Seats in the Churches; making Strangers pay great and double Fees for Tolling the Paſſing Bell, and Ringing of a Peal, when there was no ſuch Matters; taking great Fees for Burying of the Dead in the Church or Chancel; near an Husband, Wife, Father or Mother, Brother or Siſter, where before they have lain there a quarter of a year, or a little time, they are ſure to be taken up again, and flung into a Common Vault, to lodge amongſt thoſe that were Buried far cheaper, conniving at, or permitting the Pariſh Clerks, Sextons, or Grave-makers to ſell the broken and ſometimes pillaged Coffins of the Dead to be made fewel for fire or Bake-houſes, cozening the Living and Dead, feaſting and fatning themſelves upon every ſmall Conſultation and Pariſh meeting, for the good as they call it, or little Buſineſs of the Pariſh; as for the putting out a Baſtard or Foundling, or poor Pariſh Child to a Beggar to beg with, and trouble the Streets withal at a low weekly rate, and take the advantage to themſelves of reckoning by a greater, which have been the cauſe of ſuch ſhort Memories in Pariſh Politicks and Governments, as the Accompt of a Legacy of Three hundred Pounds *per Annum*, as they may be now demiſed, in Houſes and Tenements in a *London* Suburb Pariſh, for as many hundred years ago, for the Building of the Church yet ſtanding upon its old Ruins, is ſo vaniſhed as it is not at all to be found, and a royal Charity of One hundred and Twenty pounds given in the year 1625. by King *Charles* the *Martyr* in a Time of Peſtilence, could never be heard of, and the *Church-wardens* or Collectors of a near *London* Pariſh have been ſo overwatched for the good of the Pariſh, and thereby rendred ſo ſleepy or *Lethargick*, as they could not good People as they would be thought to be, tell which way One Thouſand or Two Thouſand pounds have eſcaped out of the Accompt, and the fault muſt be charged more upon the want of Honeſty than Arithmetick. And may be found as greatly miſtaken in their no ſeldom Pariſh Annual Legacies, Communion Charities, or otherwiſe; and in their Taxes or yearly Collections for the Poor, which in ſome out-Pariſhes near *London*, have amounted unto Two thouſand pounds *per Annum*, and many times ſeveral Hundred pounds *per Annum* in leſſer Pariſhes; and yet the Poor peſter the Streets, and complain of their Pariſh-ſtarving Weekly Allowances, when Houſes of Forty pounds *per Annum* therein, are by a conſtant yearly Tax burdened with Sixteen ſhillings *per Annum*, to be quarterly paid towards the relief

lief of the Poor; though many Charities, and the yearly improved Rents of Lands aſſigned thereunto, ought to have leſſened it, or by their taxing or laying heavy burdens upon ſuch as ſhall diſoblige them or withdraw their Cuſtom from their Shops, Taverns, or Ale-houſes, or to eaſe a Friend, or any that can make a perſwading Application unto them, or to charge one man more heavily than he ſhould be to eaſe another that might better bear it, will adventure to convert the Monies given for the ſetting up, or ſeeking young Tradeſmen to their own uſe, or of their own Children, Son-in-Laws or Kindred, and making their Wives Jointures of Lands given to Charitable uſes, which they cannot tell how to be ill done in regard of that often miſguiding, and miſapplied, ſaying, *That Charity beginneth at home*; take Five ſhillings at a time out of the Diſh or Baſon of the Money given to the Poor at the receiving of the Sacrament, to ſatisfie a wicked Church-warden for his Attendance; and as much ſometimes in the gathering of Money or Benevolence for the *Lecturer*, who might have ſaved that Money if he had Preached them into better Conſciences; as when after a long attendance they are to pay a charitable guift for the Marriage of poor Maid-ſervants, or to ſuch of that ſort as have ſerved one Maſter or Miſtreſs in that Pariſh for ſuch a number of years, do think the *Devil* will not be friends with them, if by ſome lye or pretence as that the Rents of the Lands are fallen, a Tenant broke or inſolvent, they do not drive them to take a pittance, or ſcarce half of what is due; and howſoever muſt give a Releaſe or Receipt for the whole: to the end that all may be reckoned, when a great deal leſs was paid.

And do think that they have as great an Authority under colour of Publick good, not at all, or but little intended, to grind and do what they pleaſe, and with as much Extravagancy in many of their illegal orders and doings within the ſmall compaſs of their little Dominions, as if all the reſt of the Pariſh were only of the Tribe of *Iſſachar*.

And every City, Borough, and Corporation in *England* and *Wales*, will not think themſelves furniſhed with Arbitrary Power, ſufficient by their Charters, unleſs by their *By-Laws* and ſubordinate Rules of Government, they can have ſome out leaps and incurſions, and inforce their Inhabitants to an obedience of their many times unjuſtifiable Orders, Fines, and Aſſeſſements.

The Companies of Trade in *London*, whoſe Charters and Incorporations were granted for the better ordering and governing of an honeſt and regular way of Trading, with a conſcionable and reaſonable gain; not to ſpoil and falſifie the Manufactures of the Kingdom, and enhaunce the Price thereof, are not to ſuffer Tricks to be plaid with it to deceive and abuſe the People.

The Drapers cannot produce a Charter, or an Allowance from God or Man, to cauſe their Cloth to be ſtretched or Tenter'd, to make 16 yards 20; and when a new created Trade called a Cloth-drawer ſhall have hid, and cunningly dearn'd up the holes or cracks in it by a device of Hot-preſſing it ſo ſlick and ſmooth it, as it ſhall feel and look rather like Silk than Cloth, ſell it for 20, 25 or 30 s. *per* yard; which if it were not ſo miſuſed and made to be almoſt old before the Taylor can have ſhapt it into a Shute of Apparel, would be worth but 16 or 18 s. *per* yard.

And it is more than an Arbitrary lawleſs Power for a Goldſmith to melt down as much heavy Money as he can come at into ſilver Plate; and ſell Tobacco and Powder-Boxes, Staff handles, Pomels of Swords, Cup-handles, and moſt of the ſmaller pieces of Plate in the Kingdom, of droſſy Silver, not half the value of Sterling, and prove them to be toucht or markt for Sterling, when it will not be worth half the Money they do ſell it for; fill Rings by an Imperceptible hole with powder of Copper, and make the Buyer pay for pure Gold, when it is for a great part no ſuch matter. Inſomuch as a great

part

part of the Plate of the Nation is now ſo much abaſed, as it is not half the value it ſhould be.

It is a more than Arbitrary and illegal Power in the Vintners, who beſides the great Adulteration of the Wines beyond the Seas before they come hither, will have the aſſiſtance of the Wine-Coopers to unwholſom them with Arſenick in the Sack, and many other unhealthful mixtures in their other Wines, and by that, and the Vintner and his Drawer's Deputy-Conjurations, can to pleaſe the humour of the Cuſtomers, fit him out of half a dozen ſmall Veſſels or Bottles, and laugh as they ſay in their ſleeves, (and perhaps the Drawer may get a Sixpence into the Bargain) for drawing it ſo ſpecially to think how neatly they are cozened; howſoever the rate muſt be what they ſhall ſet, tho' the King and his Privy Council do often put a price upon their Wines; yet if the more honeſt Drinkers will not pay the Vintner's own exacted Rate, for that which is good they muſt take the bad enough to poiſon a Dog. And if ſome fall Sick upon it, as many have lately done and dye, by no great quantity moderately drank of it, that ſhall never diſturb the Conſcience of the Vintner, who thinks it for the Publick good, that he in a ſhort time hath from a poor Tavern-Boy made himſelf worth 20000 *l.* or 30000 *l.* and his Wife the Miſtreſs of a Pearl Neck-lace (not Counterfeit, as his Wines were) of a great value.

And makes no doubt but although he Repent and come into the Vineyard of the Almighty at a late, or but the eleventh hour, he ſhall not go without his Peny, and if he purchaſe an Hoſpital, or ſome other charitable Uſes, and leave it in truſt with as honeſt an one as himſelf, it will do the buſineſs.

The *Brewers* cannot believe their Trade can ſubſiſt without the aid of an unjuſtifiable Arbitrary Power, who though they be allowed by the King, and excuſed for the Exciſe of three Barrels of Beer in every ſcore, and ſteals as much as they can notwithſtanding of the duty of the Exciſe from the King and his Officers; and the Houſekeeper pays the Exciſe for all that he takes of him. Yet from his Beer (though Mault, Coal, and Hops be never ſo cheap) or Ale, the beſt muſt be taken off, and the remainder being only water half boiled flung upon the ſtrengthleſs grains is ſent and ſerved to the Houſe-keeper for 6 *s.* Beer with the Exciſe laid upon it, and made to be a Drink not fit to give Beaſts, quickly ſtinking and ſouring, and by the Opinion of the *London* Phyſitians is a great, if not an only cauſe of the *Epidemick* and now more than formerly Infection or Diſeaſe called the *Scurvy*, not ſo much as heretofore taken notice of in the Bills of Mortality, and that Beer though always over-hopped and imbittered, to ſupply the want of Mault, the People are conſtrained to be content with; and if they will have it better, are to pay Eight ſhillings a Barrel beſides the Exciſe, for that which ſhould be but Six.

All which, or a great part of it, might by the Juſtice and Laws of the Nation be redreſſed, if the Vintners, who by a late Trick of glaſs Bottles, now uſed in moſt Taverns, beſpoken and made to be but or not ſo much as a Pint and an half, inſtead of a Quart; and their elder Brethren the Brewers were but put in mind as they ought to be of the Statute entituled *Aſſiſa panis & Cerviſiæ*, made in the 51 year of the Reign of King *Henry* the Third. And another Statute made by that King in the ſame year called the Statute of the *Pillory* and *Tumbrell*, both yet in force and unrepealed, whereby the Offenders, Vintners, Brewers, and Bakers, are to be preſented and amerced; and for every default, the Baker is to be adjudged to the *Pillory*; and the Brewer and Vintner to the *Tumbrell*, which was as it were in a *Ducking-Stool* (now ſometimes uſed over cleaner waters, and applied to notorious Scolding and

unquiet

unquiet Women) hanging over ſome muddy and unwholeſome water, being the Puniſhment of the *Foſſa* or ſtinking Pits, appropriate by the Grants of divers of our Kings to the Lords or Owners of great Mannors or Liberties, having *Aſſiſas panis & Cerviſiæ*.

Which ill doings of the Brewers in their unconſcionable and unchriſtian-like Arbitrary Power, exerciſed as far as it can be ſtretched upon their fellow Subjects, are imitated by the Alehouſe keepers, the Inferior and Retailing Matters of the *Tap*; who would never have it be ſaid or proved, that they come ſhort of their *Founders* great Abilities in the Arts or Knaveries of the *Drink* Profeſſion, or any of their Subtilties or Exactions. And therefore to make it go with a double, at the leaſt rate or price, or much more than it ſhould be, have to cheat and cozen the People in to an idle and ridiculous Expence, deviſed ſeveral Names for Drinks, as they ſhall pleaſe to call them, though there be little or nothing of the ſuppoſed Ingredients in them; as *Cock* Ale, *College* Ale, *China* Ale, *Scurvygraſs* Ale, *Lymmon* or *Orange* Beer or Ale, *Hull* Ale, *Northdown* Ale, *Sambach* Ale, Doctor *Butler*'s Ale, *cum multis aliis*; For which Adoptions, ſundry of thoſe *Promoters* of Drunkenneſs do think they ſhall ſerve the Devil for nothing, if they be not paid a double or greater rate; and by that means and thoſe meaſures, make a ſhift to clear Four Pounds a Week, and put it to griping Uſury, and in a ſhort time make themſelves the Owners of 3 or 400 *l. per Annum*, and ſome of them 7 or 800 *l. per Annum*; And in their *Ale-honeſty* can take no leſs in the Suburbs of *London* than a *Peny* for a Pint of Ale, when in *Southwark* on the other ſide of the *Thames*, better Brewed and made can be ſold for an *Half-Peny* a Pint.

The Woodmongers or Colliers can leap over all our Laws as they liſt; and by Confederacy keep back the Collier *New Caſtle* Fleet, and make them tarry in the lower part of the River of *Thames*, and ſend up to *London* ſome ſtragling Cole-Ships to ſcarce and enhaunce the price of Coles; inſomuch, as until His Majeſty after many Complaints, and a tired Patience, had taken away their Charter, they would at every extraordinary Froſt or winterly weather, never fail to raiſe the rates of Sea Coles in the ſpace of a few Days, or leſs than a Week, unto 5, 10, or 20 *s.* at a time, and ſometimes as high as 3 or 4 *l.* a Chaldron, to the great Affliction and Impoveriſhment of the poorer ſort of People; when they might as they have done ſince the taking away of their Charter, have afforded a Chaldron of Coles with gain enough under 20 *s.* a Chaldron.

Neither need we to have any Jury or Inqueſt impannelled in the ſearch of an Arbitrary Power, daily made uſe of in the City of *London* and Suburbs thereof by the People over one another, the mighty over the weak, and the rich over the poor. And the Uſurer and man of Money, when he takes as much above the legal Intereſt, for the loan of his Money, as the neceſſities of the diſtreſſed Borrowers can perſwade him unto, and upon the Severity of an Execution, or a forfeited Mortgage of Lands double or treble in value to the Money lent, looks as *Nebuchadonozer*, overlook'd his *Babylon*, walks about like a *Mogul*, or ſome unlimited Monarch of the *Eaſt*, and as pittileſs to the Supplication of the lamenting ſupplicant Borrower, and the tears of his Wife and Children, as the Hunger-bitten Woolf is with the Lamb under his bloody Paws and Fangs; In company of whom do march, the inſinuating Imp of the Devil called the *Tallyman*, with his cloſer and more Conſumptive ſecretly biting Uſury, lending Eighteen Shillings to Market-Men and Women *Heglers*, &c. Such as cry neceſſary Food in the Streets, inſtead of 20 *s.* upon the *Tally* and their own Security, at the intereſt and rate of 12 *d.* duely paid every Week, although continued at that pace a year together, being a cunning piece of Uſury, far exceeding that of the *Jews*; who in the Reign of our

King *Richard* the Firſt, were by the Common People Maſſacred, and the *Caurſini* the Pope's Brokers baniſh'd by King *Henry* the Third, for much gentler Uſuries followed by that of the leſſer *Pinching* Money-*Improvers*, who will lend 10 *l.* for no longer than a Month, and at that or every Months end, call fiercely to have it paid in, to beget the former or a greater Brocage.

When all the Trades of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and their largely overbuilt Suburbs, can by an unreaſonable and Arbitrary Power to maintain their unfitting Pride and Luxury, impoſe and put what price they pleaſe upon their Work and Commodities, and not a few do upon every occaſion or opportunity of their intereſt and advantage break and run over our *Magna Charta*, and other the Laws and Statutes of the Kingdom. And when they truſt their Cuſtomers, without which there would be little or no Trade, do when ſuch Buyers dream nothing of it, clap an hard intereſt into the price; and if need be, in writing over their Books again, make where it may be undiſcernable an addition unto it.

The *Mercers* can order their Silks and Stuffs to be made ſlight and little laſting, and half yard broad, when it ſhould be a greater meaſure; and every Month of *May* or Summer Seaſon put a Nick-name, or ſome *Cabaliſtical* or *Utopian* deviſed word upon it to make the Buyers give the more; and be fond of it.

And ſince our times of Mad-mens contriving Reformations, and opening the paſſage to all manner of Tricks of Trade and Deceits; there is in every Week a meeting of moſt of the bigger ſort of Retailing Trades in *London* and *Weſtminſter*, where they do agree their Prices for ſome good part of time afterwards, and bind one another in Bonds not to ſell under; and in the mean time take more than ordinary Care to give the Manufacture-men but half the Wages which they gave them Weekly before, whereby to ingage them to make it ſlight and leave the more room or liberty for the Seller to lye and ſwear the Commodity to an higher price. Which makes the *Stationers* ſell not only their Paper at an higher rate than formerly; but ſo ill made, as either it will not bear Ink, or muſt be as ſtiff, hard and uneaſie to write upon, as if it were a board, and requires a Pen of Iron or Steel, rather than the uſual Pens to write upon it; and the Parchments ſo ill dreſſed, as makes that which ſhall be written upon either that or Paper, to be ſo little permanent and laſting, as all our Memorials ſo written, are not likely to laſt or endure legible 10 or 20 years after in the largeſt expectation. The *London* Mealman will not think himſelf in any way of hopes of gaining, or to be a Maſter of his Pariſh, if he do not beſpeak or calculate a Famine by an ill Weather, or ſome miſchance like to happen to Corn and Grain for the enſuing year, and will therefore haſten to take advantage of it by raiſing it 2 *d* or 4 *d* in a Peck, and not keep any proportion betwixt the riſe of the Market, and that which he takes of as many as he can perſwade to give it; and having once raiſed his price, holds it as long as he can at the ſame pitch, though the Markets were long before fallen, and in the courſe of his Trade tricks, notwithſtanding mingleth Chalk, Bean and Rye Flower amongſt that which he ſels to his deluded Cuſtomers for pure Wheaten.

The Lord Maiors of *London*, that have by our King's Indulgence and Charters many Annual Profits and Perquiſites, by and out of Proviſions for Food brought thither on purpoſe to take care that it ſhould be wholſom, and the Lord Maiors and Juſtices of Peace that are by the Statutes of 23 *E.* 3. *ca.* 6. 13 *R.* 2. *ca.* 8. and 12 *E.* 4. *ca.* 8. Impowered and obliged to Aſſeſſe the price of Victuals, and the gain of Victuallers; and to Puniſh ſuch as do not ſell at reaſonable prices, with reſpect had to what is ſold in places adjoining; ſhould not permit the *Clerks* of the Markets to ſuffer unwholſome Food

nor

nor Butter made and mixed with Curds, which will taint or ſtink in two or three days to be ſold there; nor a Trade to be ſet up of Buying Barrels of Salt Butter, carrying it home and waſhing it, and mingling it with other Butter, bring it again the next Market-Day diſhed up, and ſold for ſweet Butter at double the price. And it would be well if the Lord Maior of *London* and his Brethren would take more Care than they do to purge that City of Arbitrary Power in the manage of Trade, when there is nothing to be bought either for Food or Raiment, but is adulterated, ſophiſticated, or cheated in the price or ſubſtance, not a liquid thing without undue mixtures, nor of any other nature without deceit in the quantity or quality thereof; ſo as not ſo much as Pins, Needles, and Thread can eſcape it; though there be a City *Argus*, or Man imployed in the keeping of the Knife at *Leaden-Hall*, to Cut all ſuch ill-Tanned Leather as ſhall be brought thither to be ſold; and is to make Shoes and Boots for moſt part of the adjacent Counties, as well as *London*: Matters are ſo handled betwixt the dim-ſighted Knife, the Tanner and the Currier, that by the Tanner's not allowing a due proportion of Bark, or time of his Leather lying in the Tan-pit, the Leather of the Shoes and Boots is not half Tanned, and keeps out wet or water little better than brown Paper, which muſt not be a little prejudicial to the health of the *Engliſh* Nation; who uſe not to walk with *Sandals* on their Feet in Countries almoſt fryed or toaſted with the Sun, but in moiſt and foggy Airs, where Rheums, Coughs, and Colds are and may be very obnoxious to their health.

And when theſe and other Trades have in no better a manner gained great Eſtates, and enrich'd and perſwaded themſelves that their ſpecial Pleas; That it was their Trade. Secondly, That they muſt live. Thirdly, Their Maſter or Father did ſo before them. And Fourthly, That if they did not do it, others would do it; will protect and carry them thorough the dangers of the next life, will uſe ſo little Charity in this, as they can themſelves by a *lawleſs* Power, in the way either of their Malice or Oppreſſion, cauſe others to be Arreſted and Impriſoned for ſome Months or Years to the ruin of the ſuffering party, by Illegally demiſed Fictitious Writs for many Thouſand pounds, when there was not ſo many Thouſand Shillings or Groats, and ſometimes nothing at all due unto them. And againſt all Law and right Reaſon, make their Friends, if any will be ſo ventrous as to be Bail for them, to be Charged with all other Debts, to which they were not Bail; if the Creditors do in the ſame Term declare againſt them.

And at the ſame time make heavy Complaints againſt the King, or any of his Servants or Officers of his Court, when they ſhall be but for ſome Days or Weeks reſtrained of their Liberty by the Command or Warrant of the King or his Council, for Contempts or Miſdemeanors well deſerving to be Puniſhed, and in all their Diſcourſes make Hue and Cry againſt Arbitrary Power, and a Deſign of introducing it by the King and his Council; when they might ſee and underſtand that there is no ſuch matter.

And could well enough perceive that the very many great and Importunate Neceſſities and Diſburſements, which daily thronged in upon His Majeſty ſince his Happy Reſtauration, for the defence and preſervation of himſelf and his People, and the repairing and ſetting up again of a battered and diſpoiled Monarchy, were not able to perſwade him to lay aſide the goodneſs and gentleneſs of his Nature, or to call for thoſe Dues which the Law had ſince thoſe Acts of General Abolition and Pardon afforded him, although in the midſt of thoſe preſſing Neceſſities, and very great want of Money, which daily Importuning and Calling upon him did greatly diſtreſs and diſturb as well his Mind as Affairs; he was after his Happy Reſtauration unavoidably enforced to pay many great Sums of Money owing by him in Foreign Parts, and the time of his Troubles.

Great

Great Arrears owing by *Oliver Cromwel* to the Seamen and Land Forces to calm and pacifie them.

Loſt great Sums of Money in the Aſſeſſing and Collecting of the Subſidies, Poll Money, and Aſſeſſements.

Hath been at great Charges in procuring his Plundered and loſt Houſhold-ſtuff, Hangings, Plates, and Pictures, and the Redemption of the Crown Jewels; a great part of which were by his Royal Father in his Wars and Calamities, Pawned at *Amſterdam*.

Granted Eight thouſand pounds *per Annum* of the Crown Revenue to *George* Duke of *Albemarle*, and the Heirs males of his Body, who was ſo happily inſtrumental in his Reſtauration.

Four thouſand pounds *per Annum* upon the like accompt to the Earl of *Sandwich* in Fee or Fee-tail.

Sixty thouſand pounds given to the diſtreſſed *Cavalier* Party that fought for him and his Royal Father; beſides other great Gifts and Penſions to not a few of his Subjects, either neceſſitated by Suffering for him and his Royal Father, or craving what they could of him, or to ſweeten, allure, and keep in quiet the *Schiſmatical*, Rebellious, and contrary Parties.

Expended much Money in Repairing his if not almoſt ruined yet much deformed and defaced Houſes and Palaces, repleniſhing of his Parks, Stores, and Magazines; Building of his Houſe at *Greenwich*, with an Expence of Houſe-keeping and bounty more than ordinary at his Return and coming into *England*; with the Charge of Diet for the Dukes of *York* and *Glouceſter*, and the Princeſs of *Orange* and their Families, more than formerly chargeable by reaſon of the want of his Purveyance.

In the Payment of 200000 *l.* to the old Farmers of the Cuſtoms Charged upon *Ireland* more than that Kingdoms yearly Revenue, and their Parliamentary Aids given by them amounted unto.

The Abatement of ſome of his Cuſtoms to advance the *Fiſhing* Trade.

Of his Chimney or Hearth-Money in *London*, and ſome of the Suburbs thereof for Seven years, in Relief of thoſe that Suffered by the Burning of *London*; made and ordained ſeveral helpful Acts of Parliament for the Rebuilding of it.

Gave great Sums of Money out of his Cuſtoms towards the Relief of the Captives at *Algier*.

Was at great Charges in keeping and fortifying of *Dunkirk*, until the quitting thereof.

And of the Garriſon and making the Mole at *Tangier*, and ſome of his Cuſtoms aſſigned to defray the Charges of repairing the Peer or Port of *Dover*.

Adventures in the *Guiny* and Royal Company.

Two hundred and Twenty thouſand pounds *per Annum*, neceſſary yearly Charges for the maintenance of his Life-Guards Foot and Horſe; beſides many other great Charges in the Raiſing and Disbanding of Forces to defend himſelf and the Kingdom againſt Inteſtine Plots, Seditions, and a threatning Invaſion from abroad.

Of Building of many great Ships, and Frigots; and making of Forts in *England*, *Ireland*, and *Scotland*.

In Magazines, Stores, and Proviſion for Shipping Ammunition, Ordnance, Gunpowder, &c.

Of procuring the Biſhop of *Munſter* to make a diverſive War upon the *Dutch*.

Charges and Expences of the former *Dutch* War, and his Navy of an Hundred great Ships and Men of War in ſeveral Years and Summers, every ſingle Ship in its Victualling Pay and Ammunition; being

as

as Chargeable as two Regiments of Foot in an Army well Victualled and Paid.

Payment of an unreaſonable and racking Intereſt, to borrow and procure Money, and relieve his not eaſily to be ſatisfied neceſſitous and weather-beaten Court and Servants.

Charges in the Collecting the *Chimney* Money, and the Loſſes and Defalcations in the Exciſe-Revenue in the late great Plague, and Diſmal Fire at *London*, and Defalcations to the Farmers of the Cuſtoms for their Loſſes by the want of Trade in the time of the *Dutch* War.

An Allowance or Impoſition upon every Chaldron of Coals for a certain number of years, towards the Rebuilding of St. *Paul*'s Cathedral, and 39 other Churches in *London*.

Two years Revenue of divers Rents of Houſes near *London* allowed to the *Queen* Mothers Servants after her Death; all the Delinquents Eſtates who were greatly Inſtrumental in the Murder of his Royal Father, given to the Duke of *York* for his Support; together with the Profits of the *Admiralty*, *Wine*-Licences, and a great part of the yearly benefit by the *Poſt*-Office. With many other neceſſary Regal Expences.

And being ſince His moſt Happy Reſtauration to himſelf, but moſt of all to his oppreſſed Subjects, who were thereby delivered out of a like to be perpetual Bondage and Vaſſalage of their own framing, from which otherwiſe they could never have redeemed themſelves, and being kind and gracious to as many as he could of his Suffering Party, and willing to perſwade thoſe that had been altogether inſtrumental, and cauſers of his own and his Loyal Subjects Miſeries, to follow their Example, gave their never to be ſatisfied Rapines, and godleſs greedineſs too many of the Imployments, Places, Farms and Offices under him; can notwithſtanding with *Samuel* juſtly ſay, *whoſe Ox, or whoſe Aſs have I unjuſtly taken away; whom have I defrauded, or whom have I oppreſſed?* 1 Sam. 12. 3.

Which if Right be done unto him, ſhould not be gainſaid by his borrowing of the *Banker*'s Money, when they had ſent it into his *Exchequer* at an high and unreaſonable Intereſt, and making uſe of it to furniſh out his Navy, in or againſt the approaching Spring, when the Ingrateful *Dutch*, having heaped their Abuſes and Injuries upon him and the Nation, were as Confident as the *Philiſtins* were in the Caſe of the Children of *Iſrael*, when there was not a Spear or Sword in *Iſrael*: That he could have no means or Money by the frowardneſs and diſcords of ſome *Opiniatrées* and *State-Reformers*, to furniſh out his Fleet to prevent their deſigns of perſiſting in their diſgracing and domineering over him: the Trade of the Nation abroad, and affronting and maſtering of him at home.

And in the doing thereof he was *Neceſſitate Neceſſitatum*, driven by an unavoidable and extreme Neceſſity, more than that which perſwaded *David* to take the *Shew bread* from off the *Altar* to preſerve the Publick in himſelf, and himſelf in the Publick: from a fatal and otherwiſe utter ruine, and loſs of the Soveraignty of our *Brittiſh* Seas, and the Guard and Benefits thereof juſtly Claimed and Vindicated by his Royal Progenitors and Predeceſſors, and at no time before in ſo much danger of looſing.

For his after-Actions and Cares of Repayment may Evidence that he intended neither any wrong or Injuſtice to the *Bankers*, or the Owners of it; in that he not only made a Proviſion to pay them the Intereſt until he could be able to pay them the Principal; but did all he could, if his daily and publick Occaſions had not prevented him to pay the Principal, which he long ere this had accompliſhed, had not the War by the Haughtineſs, Malice and Inſolence of the *Dutch*, often and very much decryed by the *Sweeds* and

other Nations who were the Mediators for Peace at *Cologne*, emboldened by our home Divisions, and want of Supplies, lengthened it self beyond all Expectation. And hath notwithstanding in the Interim by his Protections Royal, and many other Cares taken, done as much as he could to keep the *Bankers* from Arrests, Imprisonments, and other Ruines impendant often happening and falling upon Men indebted.

Although if Reports and the Laments of some that were concerned be not much mistaken, a great part of that Money was belonging to many of his own Servants; who by his Bounty and Places of Profit under him, had easily gained it; and many of those who so heavily complained of that detention of their Moneys had for their own advantages, intrusted it to the *Bankers*, who by an Imaginary Credit far exceeding their own Estates, furnishing one man with another man's Money, and paying out that which was but the same day or a little before come in, had inticed a great part of the Money of the Nation into their hands. And some, if not many of the Owners, did well enough understand that they did not only furnish them and their Credits, upon all Emergent occasions of Profit or Accommodation, by that kind of alluring much of the Money of the Nation into their Custody; but his Majesty also at an high and intollerable Usury, which if a strict enquiry were made by His Majesty, or Order of Parliament of the particular Owners of the Money brought into the *Exchequer* by the *Bankers*, and from thence borrowed and made use of by his Majesty upon his Publick and most urgent Affairs, would plainly appear.

And it will be as manifest, that he afterwards gave no respite to his Royal Cares and Intentions of Repaying it with the Legal or as much Interest as the *Bankers* were to pay for it. And finding that the *Fee Farm* Rents amounting unto *Seventy thousand pounds* per annum, sold at *Sixteen* years Purchase, which nothing but a grand Necessity could enforce him to Alien; for that many of them being the *Tenths*, were by two several Acts of Parliament annexed to the Imperial Crown of *England*, for the maintenance thereof, and were as so many Ties and Obligations, which made the Owners of these Lands to be dependant upon the Crown, would not reach to a Satisfaction of his other Debts and Expences; which having been longer due, were more importunate than those of the *Bankers*, did lately in a Speech to the Lords and Commons in Parliament, make it his earnest Request that they would take the Necessity and speedy Payment of the *Bankers* into their Considerations.

And when nothing of help could be obtain'd for that purpose, did by his Letters Patents under his great Seal, with great difficulty and hardship, order a part of his burdened Revenue to be assigned for the due and orderly payment of the Interest until the Principal Moneys should be justly satisfied and paid. So as his doings therein, or making use of that Money, if impartially and judiciously weighed in the Ballance of Truth and Judgment is not to be called a seizure, or forcible taking of the *Bankers* Money, or to be ranked either as to the necessity, or the thing it self, or the number of the persons concerned with what King *Edward* the First, a Wise and Prudent Prince did do, when he in the 22 year of his Reign seized into his hands upon occasion of supplying the Publick Necessities, all the *Wools* in the Kingdom as the Merchants were lading them in the Ports, giving them Security for Payment at his own Rates, and a long day, and a short price, and transported them to his own best and readiest Sale; and at another time upon a like necessity, seized all the Pope's Moneys, which had been Collected for him by the Clergy of *England*, amounting to very great Sums of Money towards the Wars of the Holy Land; gave Protections to those that had the Custody of it, and retain'd and made use of it for his then pressing

[illegible] *vascon.* [illegible] E. 1. [illegible] *Alman.* E. 3. [illegible] *Concill.* [illegible]th H. 6th.

Publick

Publick Affairs two years and more, notwithſtanding that the Pope had in the mean time ſent unto him then hugely formidable threatning Bulls, and Letters for it. Or the like done by King *Edward* the Third in the 12th year of his Reign with all the *Tynne*, or with what King *Henry* the 6th did by way of Purveyance of great Store of Grain and Corn, and tranſporting it into *Gaſcony*, where it was very dear, or by Queen *Elizabeth* of a great deal of Beer Tranſported and ſold to her uſe beyond the Seas, and by defraying a great part of the Charges of her Wars in *Ireland*, with Moneys Coined of *Tynne*, with a promiſe to make a Satisfaction for it, with Moneys made of Silver, which was juſtly performed by her and King *James* her Learned Succeſſor.

Warrant Sub. Privat. Sigil. 9 Eliz.

Concerning all which matters, fears, and jealouſies, I can be confident your Sentiments and mine will ſo little diſagree, as your Judgment of the Ages paſt, and obſervations of the riſe and progreſs of our late Troubles and Miſeries which brought the greateſt Shame and Scandal to the Proteſtant Religion, profeſt in *England* and *Scotland*, that ever it had or could have laid upon it; and caſt an unhappy Reflection upon thoſe that were in the parts beyond the Seas; will not refuſe me your Company in the Opinion of a Truth ſo experimented, that the fruit of all thoſe Artifices, rather than any juſt cauſe of any ſuch fears or apprehenſions have yielded no better Effects than the Ruine and Confuſion of the former Glory and Honour of our Nation, by ſetting up a Rebellious part of the People, the Offspring, as to ſome of their Levelling Principles, of *Wat Tiler*, and *Jack Cade* to undo and Rule over the better ſort of the People, and the Poor to Plunder and rob the Rich.

And that therefore they which have been the cauſe of ſo many Miſchiefs and Evils which their and our *Seri Nepotes* will have reaſon enough bitterly to bewail, and without God's great Mercy will ſcarcely live to ſee eradicated, ought better to conſult their Conſcience; the Precepts and Examples of Wiſdom, *Salus Populi*, Intereſt of the Kingdom, and Honour of the King and Nation, and abandoning their former Follies, and falſe Lights which led them and their partakers into ſo great Sins, and made them to be the Cauſes of ſo many National Miſeries, not run themſelves and others into the fear of one or two incertain Evils; but an Hundred which will be moſt certain, and can never be recalled.

And I cannot but aſſure my ſelf, that you will be ready to conclude with me, that there is no Rational or juſt Cauſe of Fear that we can have by any Infection contracted from the now Laws and manner of Government of *France*, under His moſt Chriſtian Majeſty. (For until their Civil and Inteſtine Wars and Ill Uſage of *Charles* the Fifth, and *Charles* the Seventh their Kings, in their greateſt Diſtreſſes, that Nation had Liberties more than at preſent they have, or are likely to enjoy.) And that our League with the *French* may as little Prejudice us and our Laws and Liberties as it did thoſe of the *Dutch*, when they were in the ſtricteſt Alliance or Confederacy with them.

For no man can be ſo tranſported out of himſelf, as to believe that a Neighborhood or a League for Civil and other Reſpects, can work any Prejudice to the Religion, Laws, and Liberties of the Subjects of either Prince or State, not granted away or Contracted for by ſuch Leagues, when every days Experience declares the contrary; for otherwiſe the *Poles*, whoſe King is Elective, and their Laws ſo very much obliging him, as he cannot alter the Freedom and Conſtitutions of the Peoples Liberties would be in danger of the *Mahometan* Extravagancies of Power to be brought in upon them, when their Kings have made any Leagues with the *Turks* or Grand Seignior, and the

the *Sweediſh* Nation in fear of their Elective King's introducing the vaſt and unruly Power of the *Muſcovite*, whoſe Subjects being under a mighty awe, Ignorance and enforced Obedience; have no more to anſwer when any State-Affairs are enquired of them, than that *God and the Great Duke do only know it.*

Inſomuch as the Provocation of the *Dutch* being ſo great, and the Vindication of the Honour of the King, Trade of the Nation, Safety of the People, and Soveraignty of the Sea ſo neceſſary, as a War with them could not be avoided.

There was no other either viſible or poſſible means to manage it with Prudence or Succeſs, than by the making of the League with *France*, who had pretences of his own to joyn with ours. In regard that Land-Armies and Forces were not able alone to bring them to good Terms, without the aſſiſtance and aid of a great and mighty Navy at Sea, which might be able to overcome and beat them in that which was their greateſt Strength, without which it would have been impoſſible for the *Engliſh* or *French* joyntly or ſeperately ever to have forced them to reaſon.

The King of *Spain*, who would heretofore have been glad of ſuch a Part'ner, as the *Engliſh* to help to ſubdue thoſe his formerly truly accompted Rebels of the *United Provinces*, who by the help of the *Engliſh* and *French*, had in a War of almoſt Sixty years together done him ſo very much wrong, and many Miſchiefs, was then become ſo jealous of the growing greatneſs of *France*, as he found it to be his Intereſt to aſſiſt thoſe that had ſo greatly damnified him, and were no other than his *Hogen Mogen* Rebels. The *Swede* and *Danes* greatly concerned in their Trade, and the Profit and Gain which they daily received by them in the *Baltick* Sea, would not joyn in any War againſt them, and if they would have been willing, were at too great a diſtance, and the forcing of paſſage would have been as difficult and dangerous as it would have been Chargeable, and the like might have been ſaid of the *Elector* of *Brandenburgh*, who was in League, Amity, and Intereſt with them, and the moſt part of the other *German* Princes, being of ſmall Power, far off, and inconſiderable, who might not make War with any Members of the Empire (as the *Dutch* being part of the lower Circle of *Burgundy* were) without the Approbation of the *Emperor* and their Diets, and the Charge and little Succeſs of hiring the *Biſhop* of *Munſter* to raiſe Forces whereby to make a Diverſion and Incumbrance upon them in our former Wars, with them, had taught us what little good, and at how great an Expence that deſign effected. And it is well known that an Army for the intended Recovery of the *Palatinate*, was in the 21th year of the Reign of King *James* by an able and ſelect Council of War, and the Approbation of the Parliament, then thought not to be ſufficient with the Aid of the *Dutch* in their Proviſions, and paſſage under the Number of 25000 Foot, and 5000 Horſe; and the Charge of 30000 *l.* to furniſh them with Neceſſaries. And when afterwards Count *Mansfeild* a ſecond *Hannibal*, and one of the greateſt Captains of his time in Chriſtendom, had with 12000 Foot, and 200 Horſe Levied here, and encouraged by K. *James* and the Parliament; ſome promiſed Aids from *France*, and ſome other States and Princes undertook to regain that waſted Countrey of the *Palatinate*, Ship'd his Men, and was at Sea with them, the King of *France*'s denying their Landing at *Calice*, and promiſed Paſſage; and the Province or States of *Zealand*, when he attempted to Land his Men upon their Coaſts, making a like refuſal, the Peſtilence and Flux whilſt they were at Sea penn'd up, and almoſt ſtifled in the Ships, killed two parts in three of them, and the remaining third part mouldring away, that Action and all the Deſign, hopes, charges, and Endeavours of it miſcarried and came to nothing.

Ruſhworth's Hiſtorical Collections, 156. 158.

And

And certainly the *Engliſh* War with the *Dutch* Petitioned for by the Parliament, put and carried on with ſo much reaſon of State, and by ſo many very Important Neceſſities, might Claim to be as well allowed to be without any detriment to the Intereſt of the Proteſtant Religion, as other Wars betwixt Proteſtants heretofore, have been upon Civil Accompts and Controverſies. The *Dutch* upon a pretence of their better defending themſelves againſt any Attempts or Increaſe of Power of the *Spaniard*, their then Enemy, did take and keep *Weſell*, and ſome Towns in the Dutchies of *Cleve* and *Juliers*, and other Frontier Towns belonging to the *Elector* of *Brandenburgh*, a Proteſtant Prince, the Juſtice whereof hath not yet been underſtood by the Learned in Politicks and Affairs of State, were not Incumbred with any Accuſation of weakening the Proteſtant Religion, and it muſt needs remain a Problem never to be determined, but put upon the File of Eternity, what can be the Reaſon that *Oliver Cromwell* and his Party of Regicide Rebels about the year 1654. upon far leſs Provocations, ſhould ſo chearfully be aided and aſſiſted in his Maritine Wars with the *Hollanders*, until he beat them into a Peace and acknowledgment of the *Engliſh* Soveraignty over the *Brittiſh* Seas, enforced upon them the Act of Navigation, That no Commodities Tranſported into *England* from thence, or of the growth of thoſe Countries, or any other Neighbour Countries ſhould be brought by them but in *Engliſh* Bottoms, and made them ſtink in the Noſtrils of all Nations, and to be guilty of a moſt horrid Ingratitude in the renouncing the *Prince* of *Orange* and his Illuſtrious Family, and taking from them thoſe Offices and Places which they and their Anceſtors had in their Defence ſo dearly purchaſed; and yet his *Cromwellian* Power was not at all accuſed for hurting the Proteſtant Religion; or how our Wars with the Dutch in the years 1664. and 1665. upon far leſs Provocation ſhould be Petitioned for by our Merchants, and both Houſes of Parliament, and willingly contributed unto, and not at all believed to be againſt the Proteſtant Religion, and why the War now made upon greater Affronts and Injuries ſhould be an undermining of the Proteſtant Cauſe, or tend to a Subverſion of that Religion more than it did, than when *Oliver* could League with *France*, and its Politick Cardinal *Mazarine*, and ſet the *Dane* to Invade the *Sweed*, and after that to put the *Sweed* upon the *Dane*, on purpoſe to diſenable him from aſſiſting His now Majeſty, his near Allie and Kinſman without any prejudice ſuppoſed to the Proteſtant Religion of either ſide, and be commended for it.

Charles the Fifth *Emperor* Impriſoning the Pope, and putting him to a Ranſom, made him not ſuſpected to be a *Calviniſt* or *Lutheran*.

Lewis the 13th King of *France*, a Catholick Prince, could heretofore make a League with the Great *Guſtavus Adolphus* King of *Sweeden* a Proteſtant, back him with Leagues and yearly great Sums of Money to Deplume the *Roman* Eagle, and make thoſe glorious feats of Arms which he did accompliſh to be the Ruine and Diſturbance of many a *Popiſh* Prince, and to be ſo formidable as to ſhake the Foundations of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, and the Pope and all the Partakers of them.

The now King of *France* could for a wrong done by others to his Embaſſadors in the Court of *Rome*, make the Pope himſelf ſubmit to the ſetting up of a *Pillar* of *Infamy* at *Rome*, to be a witneſs to the World of the Indignation of the one, and Chaſtiſement of the other; and hath lately vigorouſly aſſiſted the now King of *Sweden* againſt the *Danes* and Elector of *Brandenburgh*, being all Proteſtants: and did not think that he forfeited thereby the Title of the moſt *Chriſtian King*, and a great Maintainer of the Popiſh Religion, of which and much more which might be ſaid, there may be as many approved Examples to be met withal in Hiſtory, as there may be well digeſted Reaſons in or-

der to Publick Peace and Tranquility alleadged for it; ſo that they that would *Criticiſe*, and be over Cenſorious, ſhould it they would be juſt, whilſt they Condemn His Majeſtie's League with *France*, to be as a ſtrengthening and weighing down of the Balance on the Popiſh part, conſider that the laſt King of *France* did by his League with *Guſtavus* King of *Sweden*, ſo advance the Proteſtant ſide of the Balance, as it endangered all the other ſide, that the Villanies at home againſt His late Majeſty, and the ſetting up of *Oliver* and his League with *France*, depreſſing the *Spaniard*, and making *France* ſo over-Potent, hath ever ſince turned the Balance, and diſordered it. And that Balances may notwithſtanding at other times be rectified and made equilibrious without any damage to the Proteſtant Religion, or the various Profeſſion of it.

Which League of His Majeſty with *France*, and that Active Princes Power and concurrent Intereſt to enervate the dangerous neighbouring greatneſs of the *Dutch* overgrown Republick, did ſo little weaken the Balance on the Proteſtant part, as the Event hath clearly demonſtrated it to have been the only means of re-eſtabliſhing the Prince of *Orange* his Nephew (no remote Heir to the Crowns of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*) and the Heirs Males of His Body in the Authority and Dignity of *Stadtholder* of the United *Belgick* Provinces, *Generaliſſimo* of all their Forces and Armies by Land, and *Admiral* of their formidable and to a wonder very numerous Fleets, of which by the contrivance of *Cromwell*, the Profeſs'd Enemy of His Majeſtie's Royal Line and Family, and his encouragement of the Faction of the *De Wits*, he had moſt ingratefully been deprived (concerning which there appears not in the Petition of the Parliament for a War with the *Dutch*, to have been any proſpect or deſign) and rendred him thereby together with the acceſs of his Perſonal Virtues, Valour and Wiſdom (being not yet of the Age of Thirty years) not only the great Imitator of his glorious Anceſtors on the Fathers and Mothers ſide, but the probability (if the over-hazarding of his Perſon doth not ſhorten the hopeful race and courſe of his life) of being the greateſt Captain of the Chriſtian World, an Honour of the Proteſtant Religion, and the ſtrengthening of it.

And it can therefore be no unwholſome advice not to ſet our own Houſe on Fire by needleſs Fears and Jealouſies as we have done, or make our ſelves leſs wiſe than the Seditious Rabble of *Rome*, who by the Wiſdom of *Menenius Agrippa*, were Charmed into a Pacification and quiet of Spirits by the Fable or Apologue of the mutiny of the Members of the Body againſt the Belly or Paunch, which could not be altogether ſo perillous as ours would be againſt the Head; for until the Laws of God, Nature, and Nations ſhall be repealed, and the wiſer part of the People who have lived in the habitable World can by any of that Party or *Children of Contention*, now living be convinced, and brought by any Rules of right Reaſon or Wiſdom to acknowledge, that Particulars in a Body Politick are more to be heeded and taken Care of than Univerſals, the leſſer part more than the greater, a few more than a multitude, or that in the Body Natural the Heart, Liver, Lungs, Arms, Back, Belly, Legs, Bones, Sinews, Muſcles, and Ligaments, with Hundreds of little Parts and Particles appertaining to that excellent Frame and Structure of Man's Body can ſubſiſt, and do well when the Head which gives motion and comfort unto all, and the leaſt of them is Sick and ruining for want of its neceſſary Support and Supply from them in their ſeveral Offices.

We need not be at much pains in the ſearch of Reaſon, that they who do purchaſe the Occaſions or Advantages of Contention, which may in the end, howſoever contenting and profitable it may ſeem to be in the beginning or purſuit of it, prove to be their own as well as others Irrepairable Ruine.

and

and do all that they can to diſturb and mud the Waters that refreſh and make glad the Valleys of our *Syon*, ſhould juſtly be accompted to be no wiſer in the Event, than he who having all his Goods in a Friend's Houſe, ſet on fire by ſome that deſigned it, and their own Benefit; (as our Neighbour *Dutch* were ſaid to have done in the Wars of *Bohemia*) or by ſome evil Accident, would ſo much forget his Charity and Duty to his Neighbour, and care of himſelf, as to refuſe to aid or help him, either by Water, Ladder, Buckets or Engines, until he ſhould firſt have called him and his Servants to Accompt and Examination how and where the Fire began, by whoſe negligence or miſcarriage; what method, care and order will be taken to prevent it for the future; and what Security he will or can give, that there ſhall be no more ſuch an accident hereafter.

And whilſt he is thus over-running his Diſcretion, and acting his own Folly, and new found Politicks, ſuffer the Fire to do what it liſt, Burn the Houſe and all his own Goods, as well as thoſe of his Friends and Neighbours in it.

When Hiſtory and the Records, and never enough bewailed Experience of times paſt might have told him, and all that have a mind to Imitate ſuch a ſelf-ruining madneſs, the dire Events, and many heavy and remedileſs Calamities which fell upon the over-ſparing and cautious *Conſtantinopolitans*; who denying their Emperor a neceſſary and fitting Aid to defend them as well as himſelf, made the *Turks* Maſter of all *Greece*, ſo renowned heretofore for Learning, and that City and the Riches of it, a twentieth, or a very ſmall part whereof might have diſappointed all the Tyranny, Bondage, and Slavery which they have ever ſince been under, and are according to Humane Judgement like to continue to the end of the World, in no better a Condition.

And now that *Hannibal* is *ad Portas*, Dangers on all ſides encompaſſing and crowding in upon us, we ſhould neither forſake our ſelves and good old *England*, which will ſurely be worth the ſaving; nor ſo much miſtake that which was ever accompted to be Reaſon, Wiſdom and Forecaſt, as to undervalue the proſpect and the cares of Prevention, laugh at them as *Pedantick Fopperies*, or the dotage of a Decrepit World; and like *Jonas* diſpleaſing his God, fall aſleep in the midſt of a Tempeſt.

But rather make haſt to return to our ſelves, and ſet before us the Wiſdom and Examples of our Anceſtors and Predeceſſors, who in the care of themſelves and of the Private and Publick, not ſeparate but joyned together, as well as of their Kings and Soveraigns, would not be deterred by any State-misfortunes or Irregularities, or tempted by their Jealouſies or Fears to ſuffer themſelves, as the Members and ſmaller parts of the Body, to languiſh and be deſtroyed by neglecting the Head, and the Security and Safety thereof, or by not paying their Duty and Reverence to their Kings, hate and ruine themſelves, which in all their Diſcontents and Murmurings againſt their Kings and Government, the Anxieties, or Commotions of their Minds and Paſſions, or the Diſpairs which had ſometimes ſeized upon them, they did ſo much ſeek to avoid, as they did not refuſe them Aids in all their Wars and Troubles Domeſtick and Foreign.

King *Henry* the Second (who after a very great and general Act of reſumption of the Aliened Crown Revenue, ſome whereof had been granted by himſelf, had diſcontented many of his great Nobility) when all his Sons had Rebelled, Warred, and taken Arms againſt him, wanted not a ſupply by Eſcuage from his Subjects of *England*, to reduce them to Obedience, and make his Wars in *France*.

King *Richard* the Firſt being unfortunately in his Return *Incognito* from his warlike and glorious Expedition to *Jeruſalem*, made Priſoner by an unworthy

worthy Surprize of the Duke of *Auſtria*, and the *German* Emperor, enforced as ſome of our Hiſtorians have reported, for his Deliverance to inveſt the former of them, with the Superiority of his Kingdom of *England*, by the delivering of his Hat unto him; which the *Emperor* in the preſence of divers of the Nobility of *Germany* and *England*, returned unto him to hold the Kingdom of him by the Annual Tribute of Fifty thouſand pound Sterling; and his Brother *John* Uſurping the Crown in his abſence, and Plotting with the Emperor and the King of *France*, his mortal Enemy to continue him a Priſoner during his Life; both Laiety and Clergy notwithſtanding that he had by the perſwaſion of the Clergy more than of the Laiety, been ingaged in that very Expenſive War, did ſo ſtrain themſelves to redeem the Perſon of their King (the Kingdom and People at that time being ſecure enough from Foreign Invaſions) as they raiſed and paid *One hundred and fifty thouſand Marks* in pure Silver of *Cologn* weight (then a very great Sum of Money) by Twenty Shillings impoſed upon every Knights Fee, the fourth part of the Revenue of the Laiety, and the like of the Clergy, a tenth of their Goods, all or moſt the Chalices and Treaſure of the Church (being then alſo not a little) ſold to make up the Sum: So as *William Petit*, or *Newbrigenſis*, who wrote his Book in that time, ſaith, *Ferè exmunita pecuniis Anglia videretur*; *England* ſeemed to be almoſt emptied of all her Money; and the like courſes were held for raiſing that then great Sum of Money in all his Dominions beyond the Seas.

Gulielmus Newbrigenſis.

King *John* likewiſe having reſum'd much of his Crown-Lands, Murdered (as was ſuſpected) his Nephew *Arthur* the right Heir to the Crown, and thereby forfeited the Dutchy of *Normandy* to the King of *France*, of whom he held it; and in thoſe many Troubles and Diſtreſſes which were caſt upon him by his unruly Baronage, conſtrained to acknowledge to hold his Kingdoms of *England*, and Dominion of *Ireland*, of the Pope and his Succeſſors in Fee-Farm under the yearly Rent of *One thouſand Marks* per Annum; Charged his Earls and Barons with the Loſſes which he had ſuſtained in *France*, Fined and made them pay a ſeventh part of all their Goods, had Two marks and a half granted unto him by the Parliament out of every Knight's Fee; and within a year after a thirteenth part of all the Moveables and other Goods, as well of the Clergy, as of the Laiety.

King *Henry* the Third his Son, reſum'd all the Lands alien'd from the Crown, had ſo great Troubles entail'd upon him by the Conteſts of his boiſterous Baronage with his Father, as *Lewis* the *French* King's Son was called in by ſome of them, received their Homage, and had *London*, and a great part of the Kingdom delivered up and put into his Poſſeſſion; but upon better Conſideration was afterwards ſent home again by thoſe that Invited him, and the Barons of *England*, having ſo little accorded with their Native King, as ſeveral Battels were fought betwixt them, in one of which the King himſelf was taken Priſoner, and in another releaſed by the Valour of the Prince his Son, the managers of that Rebellion Slain, and their multitude of Partizans reduced to Obedience, being a great part of the Kingdom, by their Compounding with his Commiſſioners at *Kenelworth*, to give him Seven years Purchaſe of the yearly value of their Lands, which amounted to a very great Sum of Money, for a Pardon for their Offences, and a Redemption of their Eſtates; the Subjects and People of this Nation did howſoever in order to their own Preſervation, beſides the fifteenth part of all their Goods, for his Grants of *Magna Charta*, and *Charta Foreſtæ*, not deny him their Aids of Scutage, Fifteenths, and Tenths; there being ſcarce a year wherein there was not a Parliament, and ſeldom any Parliament without a Tax.

King *Edward* the Firſt, notwithſtanding his Writs of *Quo Warranto* brought againſt all the Nobility, Great Men, Gentry, and others of *England*; Cities and

and Burroughs Claiming Liberties and Priviledges, wherein he did put them ſtrictly to prove them either by Grant or Preſcription, ſeized and confiſcated the Eſtates of the Earls of *Glouceſter*, *Hereford*, and *Norfolk*, Men of great Might and Power; for their refuſing to go and ſerve him in his Wars beyond the Seas; the Earl of *Hereford* being Conſtable, and the Earl of *Norfolk* Earl Marſhal of *England* by Inheritance.

And their mutual Rancors and Diſpleaſures with the grand Conteſts of them and their Parties to procure the Statutes of *Articuli ſuper Chartas & de Tallagio non Concedendo*, were not healed without the Aids and Subſidies of his People.

The miſ-government and miſ-leading of King *Edward* the Second by his ſeveral Favorites *Peirce Gaveſton* and the *Spencers*, did not hinder him from the Supplies of his People.

King *Edward* the Third, after a fifteenth of the Temporalty, a twentieth part of the Goods of the Cities and Burroughs, and a tenth of the Clergy granted unto him by Parliament in the Eighth year of his Reign, having conſumed much Treaſure in his Wars, made for the Kingdom of *France*, which he claimed as his Inheritance (wherein the *Engliſh* Nation, more than for the Grandeur and Honour of their Prince, were not much concerned; but were jealous until an Act or Declaration of the King in Parliament was procured to the contrary, that the Conqueſt of *France* might have cauſed *England* to have been afterwards dependant upon that greater Crown and Kingdom) was notwithſtanding the ſeizure, and taking into his hands the Goods and Eſtates of three Orders of Monks, *viz.* The *Lombards*, *Cluniacks*, and *Ciſtertians*, and all the Treaſure committed to the Cuſtody of the Churches through *England* for the Holy War, forced to revoke divers Aſſignations made for Payment of Moneys, though he had received *Three Millions of Crowns of Gold* for the Ranſom of *John* King of *France*, whom his Son the *Black Prince* had taken Priſoner, and was not put to loſe any of his Honour, Friends, Eſtate or Intereſt for want of the neceſſary Aſſiſtance of his Subjects, who for the maintenance of thoſe and other his Wars, were howſoever well content to give him half of the Laieties Wool, and a whole of the Clergies, and at another time the ninth Sheaf, the ninth Fleece, and ninth Lamb for two years; and after many other Taxes and Aids granted in ſeveral Parliaments of his Reign, and a Commiſſion ſent into every Shire to enquire of the value of every man's Eſtate; The Treaſure of the Nation being much exhauſted, found the People ſo willing to undergo that and other Burdens which thoſe ſucceſsful Wars had brought upon them, as the Ladies and Gentlewomen did willingly Sacrifice their Jewels to the Payment of his Souldiers.

That Unfortunate Prince *Richard* the Second his Grandchild, toſſed and perplexed with the Greatneſs, Ambition and Factions of his Uncles, and the ſubtil underminings of *John* of *Gaunt*, Duke of *Lancaſter*, the moſt powerful of them, fatally continued and purſued by *Henry* of *Bullingbrook* his Son Duke of *Hereford*, was not in all thoſe his Diſtreſſes ſo unhappy, but that al- Rot' Parl. 5. R. 2. m. 60.
though the Commons in Parliament had by their Petitions unto him complained, That *for want of good Redreſs about his Perſon, and in his Houſhold and Courts, the Commons were daily pilled, and nothing defended againſt the Enemy, and that it would ſhortly undo him and the whole Eſtate*; yet they were ſo mindful of their Soveraign and themſelves, as they not only afforded him very great Aids and Aſſiſtances; but in the Fourteenth year of his Reign the Lords and Commons in Parliament did Pray, That *The Prerogative of the King and his Crown might be kept, and all things done or attempted to the contrary might be redreſſed; and that he might be as free as any of his Royal Progenitors were*: Rot' Parl. 14. R. 2. m. 15. Rot' Parl. 15. R. 2. m. 12.
And in the Fifteenth year of his Reign, did in Parliament require him, That

He would as largely enjoy his Prerogative, as any of his Progenitors, notwithſtanding any Statute; and namely the Statute of *Glouceſter*, in the time of King *Edward* the Third; *the which Statute they utterly repealed out of their tender affection to the King.*

King *Henry* the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth; although well underſtood to have been Kings *de facto*, not *de jure*, (for ſo not ſeldom have been the Pleadings at the Law of their Acts of Parliament) and although the later of thoſe Kings being Crowned King of *France* in his Infancy, and in Poſſeſſion of that Kingdom, was by his Meek and Pious rather than Prudent Government a great part of the Cauſe of the Bloody Conteſts betwixt the Two Houſes of *York* and *Lancaſter*, which ruined very many of the Nobility and Gentry by taking their ſeveral Parties, and were by their Diſcords the loſs of all the Kingdom of *France*, but *Calice*. And that *Richard* Duke of *York*, had in Parliament ſo claimed and wreſtled for the Crown, as he was declared Protector of the Kingdom of *England*, enjoyed notwithſtanding the care and good will of their Subjects upon all occaſions either at home or abroad in times of Peace or War, by their Contributions of Subſidies.

King *Edward* the Fourth in the brunt and hotteſt of the long continued bloody Contentions of the two great Houſes and Families of *York* and *Lancaſter*, after nine Battels won by himſelf, atteſted by his Surcoat of Arms which he wore therein, hung up as a Trophy in the Cathedral Church of St. *George* at *Windſor*; and his many ſtruglings with King *Henry* the Sixth, and his Party, in loſing and gaining the Crown, again War with *France*, and compelling the crafty *Lewis* the 11th the King thereof, to demand a Peace, and conſent to pay him 75000 Crowns towards his War, Expences, and a Tribute of 50000 Crowns yearly during the life of King *Edward*, notwithſtanding that he had in the ſecond year of his Reign, ſate in a *Michaelmas* Term three days together in his Court of Kings Bench, and gathered great Sums of Money of the People of *England*, by his Privy Seal towards his Wars with the *Scots*, and in the Seventh year of his Reign, reſumed by Act of Parliament all the Grants which he had made ſince he took Poſſeſſion of the Realm, raiſed great Sums of Money by Benevolences and Penal Laws, had in the Eighth year of his Reign granted him by Act of Parliament two fifteens and a Demy, and in the Thirteenth year of his Reign, a Subſidy towards his Wars with *France*, when the Actions, Courage, and Wiſdom of Parliaments were ſo incertain, as there was in the ſpace of half a year one Parliament Proclaiming King *Edward* an Uſurper, and King *Henry* a Lawful King; and another Proclaiming King *Edward* a Lawful King, and King *Henry* an Uſurper.

King *Henry* the Seventh, although that he ſometimes declared, That he held the Crown as won in Battel by Conqueſt of King *Richard* the Third, and at other times by his better Title from the Houſe of *York*, and his Marriage with the Lady *Elizabeth*, the Daughter of King *Edward* the Fourth, and avaritiouſly took all the ways poſſible for the enriching of his Treaſury had divers great Aids and Subſidies granted unto him by Parliament.

King *Henry* the Eighth, notwithſtanding that he had after many great Subſidies and Aids, both as to the Money and manner of Collecting it; granted unto him his Heirs and Succeſſors by ſeveral Parliaments; and the firſt Fruits and Tenths of all Eccleſiaſtical Promotions and Benefices, overturned the then eſtabliſhed Religion of the Kingdom, ſeized and took into his Poſſeſſion the great yearly Revenue of 600 Abbies, Priories, and Nunneries, moſt of the Hoſpitals and Colleges which had been given to Religious Uſes with Anathema's; with as many other dreadful Curſes and Imprecations as the Minds of Men could imagine to fall upon the Violaters thereof, amounting

amounting in the then yearly value, unto ſomething more than *One hundred and Ninety thouſand Pounds ſterling*, per Annum; being at a then low and undervalued rate, ſcarce the 20th Peny of the now ſince improved yearly value, excluded the Founders from their Reverſions and Legal Rights thereof; when the uſes unto which they were firſt ordained ſhould be altered, or otherwiſe applied, Confiſcated the very many rich Shrines, Chalices, Plates, Copes, Jewels, Pearls, Precious Stones, Gold and Silver, not only found in thoſe Religious Houſes; but in all the Cathedrals and Churches in *England*; the Riches of all which could amount to no leſs than many Millions of Money Sterling more, if not equal unto the vaſt and admired Reſerves and Treaſures of the *Venetian* Republick, or that of many Popes Proviſions, reported to have been laid up in the Caſtle of *St. John de Angelo* at *Rome*, in caſe of any Invaſion or War of the *Turks*; and unhappily waſted, expended, and gave away not only a great part of thoſe immenſe Riches and Land Revenue, but all the *Eighteen hundred thouſand Pounds ſterling*, which were left him in his Father's Treaſury; debaſed ſome of his Gold Coin, and made it Currant for a greater value than in truth it would yield. And the better to gentle and pacifie the People, who ſtood amazed at it, promiſed and undertook that they ſhould never more be troubled with Aids or Subſidies.

Was notwithſtanding when afterwards the Publick Occaſions required Aids or Supplies, neither forecloſed by his Promiſe, or denied the aſſiſtance of his People.

But the Lords and Commons in Parliament did in the 35th year of his Reign aſſent to an Act of Parliament for the remitting unto him all ſuch Sums of Money as he had borrowed of them or any other, by way of Impreſs or Loan by his Privy Seals, ſithence the Firſt day of *January* in the 33th year of his Reign, and *if he had paid to any Perſon any ſome of Money which he had borrowed by Sale of Land or otherwiſe, the ſame Perſon, his Heirs, Executors, or Adminiſtrators, ſhould repay it again to the King; and if any Perſon had ſold his Privy Seal to another, the Seller ſhould repay the Money to the Buyer thereof.* And for a further Supply, did in the laſt year of his Reign grant unto him one Subſidy with two Fifteenths and Tenths by the Temporalty, and one Subſidy by the Clergy.

Whoſe Succeſſors and Poſterity have ever ſince not refuſed to Subſcribe to thoſe Laws of God, Nature, and Nations; That Children are obliged to aſſiſt both their Political and Natural Parents: The contrary whereof would be againſt the Rules of Humanity and Mankind.

Judge *Hutton*, a greater Friend unto the Law then *Ragioni di Stato*, Reaſon of State or Government, declaring in his Argument in the Exchequer Chamber againſt the Ship-Money, in the latter end of the Reign of King *Charles the Martyr*, That *an Act of Parliament that a King ſhould have no aid or help of his Subjects, would be void and of none effect.*

King *Edward* the Sixth, after the many Seditions and Troubles which aſſaulted his Infant Government, and excellent endowments of Virtue and Piety, by the Wars with *Scotland*, quarrellings of the *Protector* and *Admiral*, his Uncles on the Mother's ſide; and the Plots of *Dudley* Duke of *Northumberland* was, although he had taken into his hands all the Lands, Houſes and Tenements formerly given under dire Imprecations, and Curſes for the quiet and welfare, as the People then thought of the Souls of their Anceſtors Children, Friends, and Benefactors departed out of this World and gone into the next; together with the Colleges, (given to Superſtitious Uſes) free Chappels, Fraternities, and Guilds, with all their Lands, Goods, and Eſtates; ſeizure of Church Goods in Cathedrals and Pariſh Churches, and ſuch as had been imbezil'd, with Jewels, Gold and Silver Chalices,

Chalices, ready Money, Copes and other Veſtments; reſerving to every Church one Chalice, and one Covering for the Communion Table was not grudged in the laſt year of his ſhort Reign, one Subſidy with two Fifteens, and Tenths granted by the Temporalty, and a Subſidy by the Clergy.

Queen *Mary* being a profeſs'd Catholick, renverſed the Proteſtant Religion, put many to Death, Baniſhed and Perſecuted all the Eminent Profeſſors thereof, Married *Philip* the Second King of *Spain*; and thereby endangering if ſhe had any Iſſue by him, to have brought *England* under the Laws and Yoke of his *Spaniſh* Dominions, with the Bloody and Cruel *Inquiſition* to boot; began to reſtore the Lands of the Abbies and Monaſteries, and intended to relinquiſh all her right therein; Loſt *Calice*, which had been in the *Engliſh* Poſſeſſion ever ſince the Conquering of it from the *French* by King *Edward* the Third.

Made ſevere Laws againſt the Proteſtants, Abrogated all thoſe that were made againſt the Catholicks, ſhook and tottered the Eſtates of many of the Proteſtants great Nobility in their Lands, which had belonged to their Monaſteries and Religious Houſes, and of many Thouſands of conſiderable Families of the Kingdom, who had thoſe kind of Lands either given them by King *Henry* the Eighth, or King *Edward* the Sixth; or had Purchaſed them of others, who might well have foreſeen their not Enjoyment of them, if ſhe had but a little longer continued her Reign, to perfect the entire returning to the Church of *Rome* of her ſelf, and as many of the People as ſhe ſhould be able to force into it, was not in her ſhort Reign without the Aids and Aſſiſtance of the People, when the Publick Affairs called for them.

Richard the Third, though for his Cruelties and ill obtaining of the Crown, he merited not the Title of a King after his ſtabbing King *Henry* the Sixth, whereof he died in the Life-time of King *Edward* the 4th, and after his Death procuring himſelf to be made *Protector* of the Kingdom during the Minority of King *Edward* the Fifth, his Nephew; whoſe Guards when he had made to be diſmiſſed, and enticed him and his Brother into the Tower of *London* upon a counterfeit pretence of Safety and Honour, he procur'd to be Murthered. Did the like to his own Elder Brother the Duke of *Clarence*, whom he contrived to be drowned in a But of *Malmſey*; made himſelf King, and in the ſetling of his wrongful Title and wicked Uſurpation, made ſome good Laws; was notwithſtanding in the Second year of his Reign, beſides the great Confiſcations of divers of the Nobility, and other great Men, not refuſed an Aid or Impoſition.

Sir *Richard Baker's* Chronicle.

Queen *Elizabeth*, Inheriting the Courage of her Father King *Henry* the Eighth, and the Wiſdom and Prudence of her Grandfather King *Henry* the Seventh, the happy Uniter of the *White and Red Roſes*; having by a Provident Care made ſuch a Choice of Wiſe and Valiant Sea and Land Commanders, Sage Counſellors and Miniſters of State, and Judges of the Law, as no Prince of her Age or Time could equal, did by a conſtant encouraging and imploying no other than thoſe who made it not their only Buſineſs to ſeek their own Profits, but were as fixt to her, as ſhe was to them; by whom and her own careful Conduct and Guidance, ſhe withſtood all the Aſſaults of *Rome* and *Spain*, and the Machinations which their *Jeſuits* could Plot or Promote againſt her and her moſt excellent ſteddy Monarchical Government; weather'd out the Storms and Rebellions raiſed up againſt her, with no ſingle or few Attempts to take away her Life; ſupported her Allies, and was a *Bulwark* impregnable not only to the more refined Proteſtant Religion which ſhe had planted and defended here in *England*; but to thoſe different Forms elected or ſet up by *Luther*, and *Calvin*, and the *Huguenots*, in the Foreign and other Parts of Chriſtendom, was in her glorious and ever to be imitated happy Reign, as

ſhe

ſhe made her Subjects as happy as her ſelf in the Councils, Love, Duty, and Allegiance of her Parliament and aſſiſtance of her People for their own as well as her Preſervation and Good; who although they were by her limitted not to meddle with Church or State Government, forbid and ſharply reproved for medling with the Succeſſors, had ſome of their ſeveral Members, as Mr. *Peter Wentworth* and Sir *Henry Bromley* Prohibited to ſit in the Houſe of Commons, and afterwards Committed Priſoners to the Tower of *London*, ſent for Sir *Edward Coke* their Speaker, and charged him to deliver her Meſſage to the Houſe; which he did not omit to do: That *It was in her Power, to Call, Prorogue, Adjourn, Diſſolve or Determine Parliaments, and to Aſſent* or *Diſſent*: And in one of the ſaid Parliaments refuſed her conſent to 48 Bills which had paſſed in both Houſes; informed the Houſe of Commons, That ſhe miſliked *their Irreverence towards her Privy Councellors, Members of that Houſe who were not to be accompted as Common Knights and Burgeſſes that are Councellors, but during the Parliament; whereas the others were ſtanding Councellors, and for their Wiſdom and great Service were call'd to the Council of State*; Blamed ſome *that ſeem'd to make their Neceſſities more than they were, forgetting the urgent Neceſſities of the Time and Dangers*; would not have *her People feared with Reports*; and ſpeaking to them that ſhe heard that upon the laſt Attempt of the *Spaniard*, ſome had abandoned their Towns, fled higher into the Countrey, and left all Naked; ſaid, *I ſwear unto you By God, if I knew thoſe Perſons, or any that ſhall do ſo hereafter, I will make them know and feel what it is to be ſo fearful in ſo urgent a Cauſe.* And when the Commons had Petition'd unto her againſt ſome grievances of her *Purveyances*, and Court of *Exchequer*; anſwer'd, That *ſhe had given ſome Order to the Lord Steward* for the redreſs of the *Purveyances*; That *ſhe had as much Skill and Power to rule and govern her own Houſe, as any of her Subjects whatſoever to rule and govern theirs, without the help of their Neighbours; and would ſhortly take further order therein, by the advice of her Judges and Learned Council.* Commanded the *Speaker* of the Houſe of *Commons*, That if any Bills ſhould be there exhibited *touching the Succeſſion, Matters of State, or Cauſes Eccleſiaſtical, he ſhould not receive them.*

Journals of the four laſt Parliaments of Q. *Elizabeth*, Collected by *Heywood Townſend*, a Member thereof.

Which ſeveral Speeches, Directions, and Meſſages of her Majeſty, with many others in all the time of her Parliaments, and long and happy Reign; were well eſteemed of; whoſe Birth-Day for now almoſt Fourſcore years laſt paſt in *London*, and many other Places of *England*, hath upon every 17th day of *November*, by Legacies of Annual Commemorative Sermons and Ringing of Bells, been Celebrated, and was ſo happy in the Duty Allegiance and Obedience of her Parliaments.

As a Prudent very Eminent & Learned Member of the Houſe of Commons ſaid, That before he would ſpeak or give any conſent to a Caſe that ſhould debaſe her Soveraignty or Abridge it, *I would wiſh my Tongue cut out of my Head.*

Anno 43. of her Reign, A Bill being brought into the Houſe of Commons for Explanation of the Common Law, concerning the Queens Letters Patents, and certain Monopolies; Mr. *Spicer* a Burgeſs of *Warwick* ſaid, That *that Bill might touch the Prerogative Royal, which was as he had Learned, ſo tranſcendent as the eye of the Subject may not aſpire thereunto*; and *therefore be it far from him that the State and Prerogative of the Prince ſhould be Tyed by him, or any other Subject.*

Mr. *Francis Bacon*, after Lord Chancellor ſaid, That *for the Prerogative Royal of the Prince, for his part he ever allowed it, and is ſuch as he hoped ſhould never be diſcuſſed.* And ſaid Mr. *Speaker*, pointing to the Bill, *This is no ſtranger in this place, but a ſtranger in this Veſtment. The Uſe hath been ever by Petition to humble our ſelves to her Majeſty, and by Petition to deſire*

to have the Grievances redreſſed, eſpecially when the remedy touchethher in Right or Prerogative. I ſay, and I ſay again, That we ought not to deal or meddle with, or judge of her Majeſties Prerogative, I wiſh every man therefore to be careful of this point.

Mr. *Lawrence Hyde* ſaid, *I do owe a Duty to God, and Loyalty to my Prince; I made it, and I think I underſtand it; far be it from this heart of mine to write any thing in Prejudice or Derogation of her Majeſties Prerogative Royal, and the State.*

Mr. *Serjeant Harris* moved, *That the Queen might be Petitioned by the Houſe in all Humility.*

Mr. *Francis Moore*, afterwards *Serjeant Francis Moore* ſaid, *He did know the Queens Prerogative was a thing curious to be dealt with.*

Sir *Robert Wroth* a Member of that Houſe did in his own particular offer 100 *l. per Annum* to the Wars.

Upon a Debate of Monopolies, the Queen underſtanding that a Liſt of ſuch as ſhe had granted had been brought into the Houſe; ſent for their *Speaker*, and declared unto him, That *for any Patents granted by her whereby any of her Subjects might be oppreſſed, ſhe would take preſent order for Reformation thereof; her Kingly Prerogative was tender, and therefore deſired them not to ſpeak or doubt of her Reformation; but that ſome ſhould be repealed, others ſuſpended, and none put in Execution, but ſuch as by a Trial at Law ſhould appear to be for the good of the People*; which being reported by him to the Houſe, filled them with unſpeakable Joy.

Mr. *Wingfield* wept, and ſaid, *His heart was not able to conceive, or his tongue expreſs the Joy that he had in that Meſſage.*

And thereupon Mr. *Secretary Cevill* ſaid, That *there was no reaſon that all ſhould be revoked; for the Queen meant not to be ſwept out of her Prerogative.*

And gave them a Caution for the future, *to believe that whatſoever is ſubject to a publick Expoſition, cannot be good.*

And the Parliaments in her long and glorious Reign, were ſo unwilling to give any diſturbance to her Great and Renowned Actions for the defence and good of her Self and her People, and all the Proteſtant Concernments in Chriſtendom;

As in the Firſt year of her Reign, a Parliament granted her Two ſhillings eight pence in the Pound of Goods; and Four ſhillings of Lands, to be paid in ſeveral Payments.

In her Sixth year, one Subſidy was granted by the Clergy, and another by the Laiety together with two Fifteenths and Tenths; in the Thirteenth year of her Reign towards the Charges of Suppreſſing the Northern Rebellion, a Subſidy of Six ſhillings in the pound, by the Clergy, and by the Temporalty two Fifteens, and a Subſidy of Two ſhillings and eight pence in the Pound; in her Six and twentieth year, had granted her by the Clergy two whole Subſidies, and by the Laiety three, beſides Six Fifteenths and Tenths; with a Proviſo, that that great Contribution ſhould not be drawn into Example; in her Fortieth year, had granted by the Clergy three entire Subſidies. and as many by the Laiety, with Six Fifteens and Tenths; and in the 42th year of her Reign, to furniſh Money for the *Iriſh* Wars, had Commiſſions granted to confirm the Crown Lands of *Ireland* to the Poſſeſſors of defective Titles.

And all little enough, when in the ſame year Sir *Walter Raleigh*, a Member of the Houſe of Commons declared unto them, That *the Moneys lent unto her were yet unpaid, her Jewels and much of her Lands ſold, and ſhe had ſpared Money out of her own Purſe and her Apparel, for her Peoples ſake.*

And

And yet when in the Eighth year of her Reign the Parliament had offered unto her four Subſidies, *upon Condition that ſhe would declare her Succeſſor*; ſhe magnanimouſly refuſed it, and remitted the fourth Subſidy, ſaying, *It was all one whether the Money was in her own, or in her Subjects Coffers.*

Our King *James* being born and bred in the Kingdom of *Scotland*, where their Laws are mingled with ſome Neighbour *Engliſh* Cuſtoms, drawn out of our *Glanvil*, brought thither by their King *James* the Firſt, who lived ſome time here in *England*, and afterwards ſo much Compounded and over-born by the Civil Law: brought out of *France* long after by King *James* the Fifth, which with ſome part of their Common Law, makes them to be ſo overmuch Civil and Canon, and a Miſcellany of them as they are very much different from ours, had ſo great an affection to the Civil Laws; and thoſe of his own Countrey, before he had underſtood the Excellency of ours; that ſhortly after his coming to the Crown of *England* he earneſtly recommended to the Parliament of *England*, not only an Union of both the Kingdoms, and the Subjects thereof; but of their Laws alſo: And ſo much favoured the Civil Laws, as he complained in a Speech to the Parliament of the Contempt of them, allowed or was much taken with the Comedy of *Ignoramus* and *Dulman*; which was purpoſely framed to expoſe the Profeſſors of our Common Laws to a Deriſion of the People, and render them guilty of an Ignorance of good Letters and Learning (which all of them, witneſs our great *Selden*, and ſome other of his Coævals, could not juſtly be charged with) and ſuffered it to be Acted before him at *Cambridge* with great Applauſe, and to be afterwards Printed and Publiſhed without any murmur or jealouſie of the *Engliſh* Nation, (that he endeavoured to introduce an Arbitrary Power) who manifeſted no unwillingneſs to give him Subſidies and Aids in Foreign as well as Domeſtick Affairs, when he had occaſion to require them.

All which the Cares and doings of our Anceſtors for the Publick and Common good joined with their Duty and Allegiance to their Soveraign Kings and Princes, may afford us convincing Reaſons and Arguments, out of concluding Premiſſes that the Weal and Woe of Kings and their People, are like thoſe of *Hippocrates*'s Twins, partaking each with other, and that the Fear of God, Honour of the King, Self-Preſervation, and Oaths and Duty of Allegiance; will be more than enough to enjoyn every good Chriſtian and Subject, where the welfare of the King and Publick are concerned to be as willing to help the King as he would himſelf.

And it cannot be deemed to be either unadviſedly or ill done by our *Engliſh* Fore-fathers or Predeceſſors in the Houſe of Commons in Parliament, in the Seventh year of the Reign of King *Richard* the Second; when being required of the King to give their Advice concerning a Peace to be made with the King of *France*, And the Chancellor then ſaid, That *the King of himſelf could well do it; yet for good will he would not, without their Knowledge or Conſent.* Rot' Parl. 7 R. 2. m. 5. & 19.

And it could not be Concluded without a Perſonal Interview of the King of *France*, which for his Honour required great Charges, whereof he Charged them of their Allegiance, to conſult and give him Anſwer; unto which they anſwering, That *it becomed not them to Intermeddle their Counſel therein.*

And therefore *referred the whole Order thereof unto the King and his Council.*

And being urged again to anſwer whether they deſired Peace or War? for one of them they muſt chooſe; They anſwered, *Peace.*

But

But when they underſtood that the King of *France* deſired that the King ſhould hold *Guyen* of him by Homage and Service; they knew not what to ſay, only they hoped that the King meant not to hold of the *French Calice*, and other Territories gotten of them by the Sword; whereunto when the King replied, That *otherwiſe Peace could not be granted*; and therefore *willed them to Chooſe*; *They in the end rather deſired Peace.*

But Peace not enſuing or being to be had, and the King by his Chancellor the next year after in Parliament, informing them how that the King was Invironed with the *French*, *Spaniſh*, *Flemmings*, and the *Scots who were Con-*
8 R. 2. Rot. Parl. *federate, and had made great Preparations to deſtroy him and his People, which was like to enſue, unleſs ſome means were uſed to reſiſt it*; That the King *Intended to hazard his own Perſon to whatſoever Peril which might juſtly encourage all Eſtates willingly to offer themſelves and what they had to ſuch defence.*

And declared unto them the falſhood and treachery of the *French in their Treaty of Peace at* Calice, *when they finding the* Engliſh *inclined to it, had departed from their Offers.*

The Lords and Commons when they found the Honour of the King and Safety of the Nation ſo deeply Ingaged, granted unto the King two Fifteenths, Conditionally that a Moiety of the Fifteenth granted in the laſt Parliament be part of it; and *ſo as if the King go not in Perſon, or that Peace be made the laſt Fifteenth might Ceaſe.*

Can the ſullen, rude, and ungodly *Dutch* (the moſt of whoſe Religion is Trade, and all that can be gained by it) to maintain their Incroachments upon our *Brittiſh* Seas, obſtinate Pride, and the greateſt of Ingratitudes; Drown and lay under Water a great part of their Countries to preſerve the remainder from the fury of their Enemies; endure the Aſſaults both by Sea and Land of two of the mightieſt Princes of Chriſtendom; ſuffer their undrowned Cities to be Taken and Garriſoned, and their People to lie under all the Miſeries of a Conquering, Over-running, and Ruining Army by Land; Behold and ſee their Banks of Treaſure with their formerly great Riches and Credits, for which they had Circled the Terreſtrial Globe floating upon the Seas, and like the Dead Bodies of the Slain of their People ſuddenly diſappearing and ſinking, whilſt the Inhabitants weeping as they work, were ſcarcely able when their numerous over-burdening Taxes were paid to ſupport their ſad Souls in the Lodgings of their languiſhing and care-waſted Bodies with what was left them of their Gains?

And ſhall not the Subjects of *England*, for the Vindicating of their Soveraigns and the Nations long ago confirmed and allowed Rights in the *Brittiſh* Seas, for the Honour and Safety of the King and themſelves, Protection of our Iſles and our Ships, which are not only the wooden Walls, but glory thereof; and the Girdle of Strength encompaſſing them, lay aſide their too often cauſeleſs Fears and Murmurings; and out of their Luxury, Pride, Peace, and Plenty, ſpare that which may well be contributed towards his and their own Aid and Aſſiſtance?

Shall our *Brittannia* that was wont triumphantly to ſit upon her Promontories, looking into her *Brittiſh* Seas, viewing her Glories, and enriching many Nations with her Merchandize; now like one affrighted, tremblingly look back, and behold the Diviſions of her People at Land, ready to make her and themſelves a Reproach and Hiſſing to all Nations, ſmall and deſpicable in the eyes of thoſe which were accuſtomed to honour her? Shall the Tears lie upon her Cheeks? Shall ſhe cry out that her Friends have dealt Treacherouſly with her, and are become her Enemies? Shall ſhe recount unto them how our Diſcords at Land heretofore, made the *Romans* Maſters

both

both of our Seas and Land; where the Conquerors confeſſed, That *Dum ſinguli pugnant omnes vincantur*, That their greateſt Advantage was the Diſagreement of the Conquered?

And will it not now be high time to believe what the Lords and Commons in Parliament declared in their Petition to King *Charles* the *Martyr*, for our Religion, Laws, and Liberties in the fourth year of his Reign, That *Jealouſies and Diſtractions are apparent ſigns of God's diſpleaſure, and of enſuing Miſchiefs.*

And that the Diſtempers and Fermentation thereof more and more increaſing, may recall to our remembrance,

How little thoſe Fears and Jealouſies did profit Mr. *Pryn*, or his Adoring the *Soveraignity*, as he once called it, of Parliament; when he was afterwards pull'd out of the Houſe of Commons, made a Priſoner, and driven to an utter Deteſtation of their *Arbitrary Power?*

Or of how little avail they were to the reſtleſs ſpirit of Levelling *John Lilburn*, when he was after as much out of love with the *Republicans* or *Cromwellians*, as he was once with them; and wrote his Book, entituled (if my memory fail me not) *Of the Oppreſſed Men in Chains*: And after his Caſhiering out of the Army, Impriſonment, Baſflings, and Trials at Law, lugged and carried about with him Sir *Edward Coke*'s Comment upon *Magna Charta*, and other *Engliſh* Law-Books to no purpoſe.

The Fears and Jealouſies which had gotten Poſſeſſion in the head of Alderman *Andrews*, Lord Maior of *London* in thoſe wickedly pernitious Times could not reſcue him from the Title of *Anti-Chriſt* beſtowed upon him by ſome of his own Party.

And *Oliver Cromwell*, before he took upon him the Title of *Protector* of his herd of Villains, Regicides, Murtherers and Felons, was fairly threatned or attempted to be Indicted for High Treaſon by Cornet *Day*, againſt the fooliſh Fancies of their *Wat Tiler*, *Jack Cade*, *John* of *Leyden*, or *Maſſianello* rowling, confounding, and never-reſting Common-wealth.

Or how much did thoſe Fears and Jealouſies benefit the City of *London*, or advance their Trade or Riches; when in the late Rebellion they forfeited all their Charters, and the Liberties which they had in more than 600 years laſt paſt obtained of their Indulgent Soveraigns; Perjured themſelves, ruined much of their Eſtates by being (ſome Good and Loyal Citizens excepted, who could not be without great Sufferings) Inſtrumental in the Ruine of many of the Nobility and Gentry, their Debtors and Cuſtomers betook themſelves to Plunders and Sequeſtrations of honeſter Men than themſelves, Purchaſed with others the Palaces and Lands of the King, Queen, Prince, Biſhops, Nobility, and Delinquents, as they ſtiled them; for fighting againſt His late Majeſty, when they fought for him.

Bought at cheap Rates his Pictures, and ſold the Ornaments of his Chappels, Plate, Copes, and Veſtments, not ſparing the Coats of his Guard of Halberdiers, pull'd down his Statue at the *Royal Exchange*, with the baſeſt and vileſt Declaration put in the place of it, *Exit Tyrannus Regum ultimus*; took away or ſpoiled the Statues of *William* the *Conqueror*, and all the ſucceeding Kings of the *Engliſh* Monarchy; which the love which they ought to bear to Monarchy, might e're this time have perſwaded them to have ſupplied. When the *Mercers* Company of *London* had Revenue ſufficient left in Lands by Sir *Thomas Greſham* Knight, that *Prince of Merchants*, the Founder of that *Royal Exchange*, for the conſtant Reparation thereof.

And to how little benefit and ſmall accompt did their fears and wilfulneſs come unto, when in the late Dreadful *London* Fire, when they might at the firſt in a little time have quenched it by Blowing up with Gun-Powder leſs

than Sixteen Houſes, or half a Street; they did ſuffer it to rage and do what it would from the later part of the *Saturday* Night until the latter part of the *Wedneſday* Night next following; until it had Burned in that City and its large Suburbs little leſs than Twenty thouſand Houſes, with St. *Paul*'s *Cathedral*, and almoſt a Hundred Churches; and had not been ſo unhappy if the Owners and Neighbours had taken the Advice, or hearkened to the earneſt Perſwaſions of His Majeſty, who on foot laboured even at the Pumps, and cryed out for Help amongſt them, and did all he could to perſwade them to take that better courſe to ſtop that Fire; but with other that gave the ſame advice, was anſwered (as the *Duke* of *York* was at his quenching the Fire at the *Temple*, commanding an abſent Gentleman's Chamber to be Broken up to preſerve his Books and Writings, and preſerve the contiguous Building from Burning) that to blow up Houſes, or break open Doors was againſt *Magna Charta*, and they might have Actions brought againſt them. And in the interim whilſt they were ſo diſtracted with their Fears, as all the Care they took was to lugg and carry away their Goods into the Fields or Churches; in the latter whereof the one helped to burn the other, and leave their own or their Landlord's Houſes to the mercy of the Fire; which doing what it pleaſed, and raging ſo impetuouſly, made the whole City and its Lines of Communication, and the Circum ambient Air to be like an Oven over-heated, as the numberleſs Sign Poſts with their Signs fell on fire, and leapt in ſheets as it were from one Street to another, where it never had ſtopped until it had deſtroyed and Burnt all *London* and *Weſtminſter*, with at leaſt 60000 Houſes therein, if His Majeſty, and his Servants and Nobility indefatigably Night and Day labouring amongſt the remaining ſad-hearted People that tarried, had not upon the *Wedneſday* Night, or *Thurſday* Morning next following, put the Fire (by blowing up ſome Houſes) to a ſtand; and taught and encouraged the then witleſs over-affrighted Citizens to ſubdue that mighty Arbitrary Element.

Which City had been long after unbuilt, and left *inter Rudera & Cineres*, a ſad Spectacle to the World, if the continued Cares of His Majeſty had not by the Advice of his Parliaments, reſcued them from Beggery and almoſt endleſs Suits and Controverſies betwixt the Landlords and Tenants, concerning the Building up and Repair of their Houſes.

And laid the burden of the Loſs and Damage upon the Landlords, who were many of the Nobility and Gentry, Colleges and Halls in the Univerſities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, Companies of Trade, Hoſpitals, ſuch as St. *Bartholomew*'s, *Chriſt-Church*, and *St. Thomas* in *Southwark*; Cum multis aliis, &c. By cauſing them in conſideration of the Tenants Rebuilding their Burnt Houſes with Brick in a ſafe and ſubſtantial way, to make them long Leaſes of Forty or Fifty years; according to the ſeveral Circumſtances of Reaſon, good Conſcience, and Equity without any Examination of their fooliſh Fears, in the ſaving of their Goods, and leaving their Houſes to the fury of the Fire; which in a few years hath by the Rich Tradeſmens taking of five times more Money with Apprentices than Fifty years ago was accuſtomed, amounting in the whole unto many Thouſands of Pounds, and ſome Mortgages; and the Sinful Liberty, and Arbitrary Power which they have of late taken, in the raiſing of their Prices, and adulterating and ſophiſticating all that they Sell, ſtarving the Workmen, and diſparaging and falſifying all the Manufacture of the Kingdom; and ſome helps before-mentioned from His Majeſty, together with his Building of *Temple-Bar*; to the wonder of many at home, and all Nations that Merchandize with her abroad, been moſt beautifully Rebuilt, much better and more glorious than it was before. And in the gorgeous Apparel and Attire of themſelves,

themſelves, their Wives, and Children; Stately Furniture of their Houſes, and Expence of Diet; having drawn a great part of the Riches of the Nation, to their diſpoſe and command, do live like Lords, and their Wives like Counteſſes or great Ladies of Honour, wallow in Peace and Plenty, and it were well they would be more thankful than they are unto God and their King for it.

Shall we be afraid, becauſe things may be when we neither are or can be ſure that they are or will be, and terrifie or moleſt one another with the apprehenſion or poſſibility of it before-hand, when we might do better to be quiet.

And if I ſhould now Inquire of you how they have arrived to the height they now poſſeſs, and become ſo fermented as to be the Diſeaſe *Epidemical* of the Nation; you will I make no queſtion without any the leaſt of heſitation or ſcruple, return me an Anſwer, That it is the twice a Day viſited in *London* (by almoſt every Tradeſman, and many times by his Man, where too often they do Brew and tun up Sedition and Treaſon) *Coffee-Houſes*, or prating, Lying and Seditious Schools in *London*, and its large Suburbs, and moſt of the Cities and Boroughs of the Nation, the Mart of Lies and *Fools bolts*, and Mr. *Muddiman*'s Cream of Intelligence, Communicated twice a Week by his Letters to very many in divers Countries, who do largely Penſion him, and to Countrey *Coffee-Houſes* that pay him a very conſiderable yearly Rent for his State-Informations; where Lectures being read, and Annotations made upon them, and Gueſſes and Conjectures raſhly heaped one upon another, and put together; Faction ſpreads her wings and carries it as faſt as ſhe can home unto too many of the Gentlemen and Farmer's Houſes: From whence it comes to be *Chewed* over again at every Conventicle or Congregation Meeting, and repeated at every Market or Country meetings, and at the Feaſts or Entertainments each of other; which multiplies their fancied Affrights and Dangers, and pleaſeth them not a little, who would think themſelves or their *Tittle tattle Trade* undone if they ſhould but hear of any thing (which they might often, if they would but confeſs or underſtand it) that is well done either in the *Church* or *State*; whereunto the *Diſſenters* or *Conventicle Nonconforming* Miniſters, do bring no ſmall addition, who can as little hold forth, or prove that they and their numerous Proſelytes and followers are or ever will be without converſion, either good Chriſtians or Subjects, as they can Evidence that gaping, winking, ſnoffling, face-making, howling, with as many frantick geſtures in their Pulpits, as the Heathen *fatidici* or Prieſts were accuſtomed to make, are Eſſential to Preaching; or that all that they in their *Extempore* traſh, bable to their ſeduced People is by the Spirit or any gift thereof; all that they in thoſe Places or ſtations of teaching and promoting Diſobedience and Averſion to the King, and his Laws and Government, can be *Canonical*; or if ſo, how it ſhould come to paſs that in that kind of crude undigeſted matter, there ſhould be ſo many *Blaſphemies*, wreſtings and abuſes of Scripture, Tautologies, vain Repetitions, and ridiculous Stories, Expreſſions and Exhortations to Sedition and Rebellion. The Product whereof hath ſadly of late years appeared to have been not one, but many *Sheba*'s, blowing the Trumpets of Sedition, and *Shimei*'s railing at, *Lampooning* and reviling our *David*, by baſe calumniating libellous Papers without any Names ſubſcribed, put on his Table or Chair in his Cloſet, or affixed in places in his Galleries or Walks by thoſe that would be call'd his Loyal and moſt Obedient Subjects, or ſuch as have been thereunto inſtigated by Jeſuits to make their Soveraign out of love with them, or they with him, at the ſame Time when his Sacred Perſon hath been ſurrounded with Popiſh Plots, by Piſtolling, Stabbing, Poiſoning, or Aſſaſſination; and thoſe that are Truſty and Faithful to him, and

the

the well-eſtabliſhed Government in Church and State, muſt have no better Titles than *Tories*, *Tantivies*, or *Popiſh* affected Pamphlets and Books to juſtifie and incite Sedition, Treaſon and Rebellion, every day publickly Cryed in the Streets, or Sold in the Book-ſellers Shops.

All which the moſt ſavage wild and barbarous People or Nations of the World, *Jews*, *Pagan*, *Mahumetan*, *Latitudinarian*, *Papiſt* and *Proteſtant*, Religious *Eaſtern* and Weſtern Churches, and even the cheating *Bannians* would diſown, bluſh at, be aſhamed of, and abhor.

Unto which our Diſaſters both in Church and State have been great Additions, and *Kindle Coles*; which have made not only many that have ſome Learning, and are *ex meliori luto*, better born and bred; but the Mechanick and Illiterate part of the People, to take themſelves to be a kind of *State-Menders*, and to make their ſmall Capacities the rule and meaſure of their fooliſh Prognoſticks, and are as like to hit the *white* or *mark*, as he that ſtands without the Doors of an Houſe a mile off it; and undertakes of himſelf without the help or Information of the Inhabitants to know what is every day and night, hour or minute thereof done within the Houſe; or as ſome *Mountebank* Phyſitian, who without the Aid or Sight of the Patient, or any Inquiry into the Symptoms, Indications or Progreſs of the Diſeaſe, ſhould promiſe a never-failing Cure of his Sickneſs or Diſtemper; and may as little deſerve his Fee, as a *Lawyer* who ſhould adventure to give his Opinion, or direct his Client how to proceed in his Action or Suit, without any knowledge at all of the Fact.

So as thoſe *State Almanack-makers*, by ſuch an Extravagant and incertain *Ephemeris*, would do well to be more modeſt and cautious in their Opinions, and not to expoſe the Honour of their King and Soveraign to the fooliſh and ill-digeſted Cenſures of themſelves and others; and make themſelves the *Conduit-Pipes* to convey their Follies to the more Ignorant part of the People; who although by God's mercy to a cauſeleſs murmuring Nation, from the *Winter* to the *Spring*, from the *Spring* to the *Summer*, from the *Summer* to the *Autumn*, and from the *Seed* time to the *Harveſt*, *when the Valleys ſing, and the Earth is loaden with the Increaſe thereof*, and ſo all along; not for one but many years together they might underſtand how often they have ſinned againſt the Divine Mercy and Providence by their Complaints of the weather, too *hot*, too *cold*, too *wet*, too *windy*, too *dry*; ſo as ſcarce one day in every ten of the year, can get an univerſal liking or good word of the ways of God's Providence; and ſhould when they have found themſelves every year ſo often and ſo greatly miſtaken, be once aſhamed, and forſake that unquietneſs of Spirit, will notwithſtanding not only continue thoſe their miſ-doings and humours in the Caſe of God Almighty, as a Cuſtom or Privilege belonging to their Farms and Husbandry; but in the height of all their Peace (without which their Plenty would be blaſted) ſo very much traduce, ſcandalize, and miſlike the Royal Cares of their King and God's Vicegerent, and be ſo unjuſt and unreaſonable in their Complaints and *fault findings*, as though they ſit under *their own Vines, eat the fat of the flock, lye down upon their beds of Ivory, ſing to the Harp, riſe up to play*; enjoy a Peace and Plenty to a Surfeit, and the Envy of all their Neighbours, and may Weekly read and hear of the Miſeries and Sufferings of many Neighbour Nations by Wars and Invaſions of one another; yet they muſt never be contented, but be every day, and very often in every day finding fault with the Government. As if the Government of the King, and the Government of the King of Kings, as to the weather, were always to be blamed.

Whilſt they ought rather to be ſo careful of themſelves and their Poſterities, as to abominate thoſe fooliſh ways of cenſuring Authority; and to take heed that God do not Puniſh us for our unthankfulneſs, and abuſing his ſo many and all ſorts of Mercies under a Prince.

Who

Who beſides all his other Royal Cares and Conceſſions, added unto thoſe of his famous great Anceſtors and Predeceſſors, Kings and Queens of this Realm, for the Preſervation of his Peoples Liberties and Properties; did no longer ago than in the 31th year of his Reign, for the better ſecuring of the Liberties of his Subjects in their Perſons, and prevention of Impriſonments, by ſending them in Cuſtody to ſome of the Iſlands; conſented unto an Act of Parliament under great Severities, Forfeitures and Penalties to be inflicted upon ſuch as ſhould Impriſon or Detain any Man after an *Habeas Corpus* brought, as well in the Vacations as Terms.

And ſo far extended it, as upon the Committing of any Man Priſoner by himſelf or the Lords of his Privy Council, Lord *Chamberlain*, or other great Officers of his Houſhold, they are allowed to be Bailed by the King's Juſtices of his Superiour Courts of Juſtice; although when they themſelves ſhall, as they do often, Commit or Impriſon any man by their Delegated and Derivative Power from the King, only they are not at all obliged to diſcharge any ſuch Offenders upon Writs of *Habeas Corpus*.

And by that and thoſe multitudes of former Proviſions which our Kings and their Laws have made for the good and ſafety of their People from all the incurſions of Arbitrary Power, ſhould not forget that there is not ſo much as an Imaginary fear or danger that any Subject of *England* can be injured by any Arbitrary Power or otherwiſe; for which a preſent and ſudden Remedy may not be quickly had or provided; and that it is now a received Maxim in our Common Law, That *the King can do no wrong*; and that, *id poteſt quod de Jure poteſt*. So that there are very few, unleſs ſuch as would have the King to be as liable (which our Laws did always forbid) to Coertions, Arreſts, or Puniſhments, as the moſt ordinary or meaneſt of his Subjects are or ought to be, or can be ſo ignorant in the courſe or Proceedings of our Laws; but may underſtand, That if he ſhould cauſe any to beat or do any Injury or Treſpaſs to any of his Subjects, the Parties or Agents are by his and our own Laws to be reſponſible for it.

And believe that King *James*, who had reaſon to underſtand Government and Affairs of State better than ſuch kind of People, did not err or ſay amiſs in his Anſwer in the 19th year of his Reign to a Petition to the Houſe of Commons in Parliament, when he declared unto them, That *None could have Wiſdom to Judge of things of that Nature, but ſuch as are duely acquainted with the particulars of Treaties, and of the variable and fixed Connexions of the Affairs of State, together with the knowledge of the Secret ways, ends and intentions of Princes in their ſeveral Negotiations; otherwiſe a ſmall miſtaking of Matters of that Nature might produce more and worſe effects than can be Imagined.*

And remember that if Impoſſibilities could be poſſible, and every one that fooliſhly fancies himſelf to be able, could be able to manage or Judge of State Affairs; yet we have no Laws that do allow every Man (Coblers and Illiterate men not excepted) to be a Stateſman.

And that St. *Jude* reprehending thoſe that *deſpiſed Dominions, and ſpeak evil of Dignities*; gives us the Original from * whence it comes, *for that they ſpeak evil of thoſe things they know not.*

* Epiſtle of *Jude*, v. 8. and 10.

And therefore if they would but once reſolve to be more obedient, ſeek and embrace Peace and Humility more than they do; and follow the Council of the Apoſtle St. *Paul*, to abſtain from thoſe that make Diviſions;

And not take every thing that they do hear from fooliſh lying or malitious Tongues, rackets and rebounds, to be a certainty of Truth, when there is nothing at all to ſupport it; unleſs they will acknowledge that their underſtanding memories, and ſenſes, are by the vain and incertain Imaginations of Fears

and groundleſs Jealouſies, miſguided and led into a Frenzy; or otherwiſe that they would under thoſe Pretences hide and cover their very wicked Deſigns, until they can be effected, and ſeduce as many as they can into their Party, to help to go through with it: might acquieſce in the Opinions, Duty, Allegiance, Underſtanding Reaſon and Senſe of many Counties, Cities and Boroughs of this Kingdom; who upon the reading of his Majeſtie's Declaration, ſhewing the Reaſons and Cauſes of his Diſſolving the laſt Parliament, and His Majeſtie's firm and fixed reſolution to maintain the Religion and Monarchical Government of this Kingdom, now by Law eſtabliſhed, have by their many ſeveral Addreſſes made their dutiful acknowledgments for His Majeſtie's Grace and Favour therein, and the happy Government Peace and Plenty wherein they have lived ſince His Majeſtie's happy Reſtauration; humbly offering to defend the Rights and Prerogative of his Crown with their Lives and Eſtates, and concurring with them therein.

Believe that when they have tired themſelves with their ſeaveriſh Dreams and Fancies, and are awake and ſhall come to themſelves, they will upon a more knowing and ſober inqueſt, readily find that there are more Dangers and Miſchiefs like to happen by *Atheiſts*, *Debauchees*, and *Latitudinarians*, not a few of the Sectaries, and no ſmall number of the wild headed *Opinion-Mongers*; whoſe giddy Notions makes every thing that tends to their Intereſt or Conveniency to be Religion enough, and are ſo near Neighbours to *Popery*, as if not ſpeedily prevented, are like to gulf into it, than there is of any Inundation of Arbitrary Power, or of the Common ſort of *Unjeſuited* Popery; and that *Popery* it ſelf would much abate, if the *Atheiſts*, *Latitudinarians*, and Debauchees, and the daily Quarrellers with our Church and State Government would better regulate their Brains, and not make themſelves ſo much as they have done the Seminary Seed-Plot, and Nurſery of it.

And it may be a wonder beyond the Seven Wonders of *England*, and more than an hundred added thereunto, That by a ſtrange *Effaſcination*, ſo great a part of the Nation, after that they might well have underſtood his juſt and happy Government all the time of his Reign: had moſt wickedly Rebelled againſt His late Majeſty their Soveraign, vanquiſh'd and procured him in the hopes of Peace, to deliver up unto them the remainders of his Strength and Garriſons; *Viz. Oxford*, *Newark*, *Worceſter*, and *Wallingford*; Impriſoned notwithſtanding, and hunted him to Death, and brought him upon a Scaffold before his own Houſe or Palace at *White-hall*, to be barbarouſly Murthered.

Where he declared to the Soldiers, Army, Officers, and Spectators after he had received the bleſſed Sacrament, Adminiſtred unto him by the Pious and Reverend Dr. *Juxon* Biſhop of *London*; and performed his other Devotions Preparatory to a near approaching Death, in his dying and laſt words, which ought to be believed by all that had any thing of Humanity, or were ever but *Chriſt'ned*; That as to his Religion, *He died a Chriſtian, according to the Profeſſion of the Church of* England, *and found it left him by his Father.*

That he *deſired the Peoples Liberty and Freedom as much as any body whoſoever, but he muſt tell them that their Liberty and Freedom conſiſts in having of Government thoſe Laws, by which their Lives and their Goods may be moſt their own: It is not for having ſhare in Government, that is nothing pertaining to them. A Subject and a Soveraign are clear different things, and therefore until they do that, I mean that you do put the People in that Liberty, as I ſay, certainly they will never enjoy themſelves.*

It was for this, that now I am come here; if I would have given way to an Arbitrary way, for to have all Laws changed according to the Power of the Sword, I needed not to have come here. And therefore I tell you (and I pray God it be not laid to your charge) that I am the Martyr of the People.

That

That in ſtead of a never enough to be repeated Repentance, with as much ſatisfaction as was poſſible to make it available (not by ſowing the Seeds of another Rebellion) they ſhould be ſo *Sottiſh* (which is more than a Frenzy or Lunacy, which ſometimes alloweth Intervals of underſtanding, or coming again unto themſelves) as not only to continue thoſe Fears and Jealouſies, but to hatch new and greater Additions unto them, which in moſt of the ſeduced Multitude can have no other Ground or Foundation than their Ignorance, Folly, and Illuſion; and in the leſſer number of that Party their Villany, Treaſon, and a Propenſity to Act over again a ſecond Rebellion to ſupport them.

Can they read or hear that the *Turks* or *Mahometans* in their ignorance do no ſooner find the leaſt piece of Paper, or any other thing, with any writing upon it, but fearing that it may be ſome note or diſcovery of their Sins which might be carried to God Almighty, or their great Prophet *Mahomet*, do make as *Buſſequius* relateth, all the haſt they can to burn or deſtroy it?

And at the ſame time write, and hire to write, print, publiſh, and permit to be Cryed and Sold in the Streets, Pamphlets, and Books to juſtifie as much as they can their Perjuries, Sedition, Treaſon, Rebellion, and the Murther of His Majeſtie's Royal Father, with all manner of Invectives againſt the Government of Church and State; do they read or hear that *Athens*, once the glory of Learning and Wiſdom, is by her variety of Humours and change of Government (do what the Sage *Solon* could) now become a poor *Miſer* Town under the *Ottoman's* boundleſs Arbitrary Power and Slavery, and that the ſtout hearted *Spartans* without their *Ephori* or *King-Comptrollers*, are now under as ſad and ſlaviſh a condition; and yet perſiſt in their reſtleſs murmurings?

Or can they find any Reaſon or Juſtice, or ſo much as a colour of either of them to charge an *Arbitrary Power*, or faults of Government upon their King or Soveraign, when they will ſo little obey his Laws and Statutes, as they do all they can to contemn, over-turn, trample upon, and change them from better to worſe; from the beſt of *Monarchies* to the worſt of *Anarchies*?

When their King can do no more than make or ordain good and wholeſom Laws, which with our former Laws are as Sir *Edward Coke* hath ſaid, the *Quinteſſence* or beſt of all Laws in the World, and his Subjects will not obey them, or the directions and care of his Commiſſionated Judges and Officers; but will amongſt themſelves uſe *Arbitrary Power*, cheat, oppreſs and devour one another, and can but do what he can, and pray to God to give them grace to obſerve them, and may in that Caſe ſay as a King of *Iſrael* in another Caſe did to the Woman in the great Famine of *Samaria*, crying out unto him as he paſſed upon the Wall, *Help my Lord, O King*; and he ſaid, *If the Lord do not help thee, whence ſhall I help thee?* 2 *Kig.* ca. 6.

And until they ſhall have brought themſelves to a better Temper, it will not alſo be a thing unlikely, but that I having ſaid ſo much to allay their Fears and Jealouſies may be *tenter-hooked*, by ſome of their Sufpitions, bundled up amongſt their no few or unuſual miſtakes, and made to be either a *Papiſt* or *Court Paraſite*; but when they ſhall have ſearched the Devils Regiſteries, and examined, pryed, peeped into, and Inſpected all my Actions from my youth upwards, muſt whether they have a mind unto it or not, give me leave to tell them, and prove, what you do know as well as my ſelf, that I am no *Papiſt*, no *Court Paraſite*, nor Flatterer of any Man; and that they will not be a little miſtaken if they ſhall think that I am not a very Loyal Subject of my King, Dutiful Son of the Church of *England*, or not averſe to an Arbitrary Power, or that I can be any thing elſe then a Lover of the Truth, my King, the Church of *England*, and my Countrey; and being alſo an honourer of your ſelf in your doing the like, ſhall deſire always to continue under the Character thereof, and

June 17th. 1681.

Your moſt Affectionate Friend and Servant.

FINIS.

Errata in the Authors abſence.

PAge 16 line 5. for *and are*, read, *you are very ſolicitous for the Church*, p.9. line 28. read *put*, p. 10. line 31. read *diſcern*, p.40. line ult. dele *was*, read *did*, dele *as ſhe*, et p.41. dele *ſhe made*, et read *make*.

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